

Good marriages need communication and conflict

By Terri Lackey

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP) — Good communication skills, even if that means a healthy fight now and then, are imperative for a marriage to mature effectively, conference leaders at a Fall Festival of Marriage said at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

Couples commonly fall into four styles of communication: chit-chat, over-responsible, under-responsible, and responsible, said Dale Keeton, director of counseling ministries at Columbia Baptist Church in Falls Church, Va.

"Chit-chat is just a way for couples to have a re-entry experience after a day of work," Keeton said. "There's no heavy

stuff here, and it doesn't do much for building oneness."

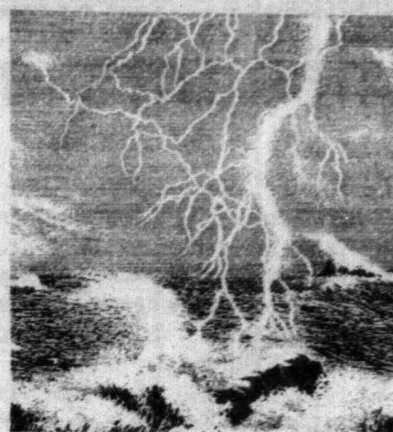
He said a partner with an over-responsible communication technique "is very willing to share what he thinks as well as what you think," while an under-responsible communicator "is adept at drawing out conversation but is unwilling to share much about himself."

Responsible communication involves both partners' willingness to share in conversation as well as to listen, Keeton explained. Five Fall Festival of Marriage weekends are being sponsored by the family ministry department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board this year. Three are being held at Ridgecrest, one at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Con-

ference Center, and one at Lake of the Ozarks, Mo.

Sylvia Widick, a Christian entertainer from Nashville, Tenn., who led a conference on how to avoid "marital dry rot," said several types of communication problems may plague a marriage. Happy marriages are not devoid of problems or conflict, but partners make a responsible effort to deal with them in a healthy way, she said.

Widick noted many couples expect their love to take care of a communication problem, but she added marriages and families create complicated demands that require more conscious efforts of talking and listening to "make things work smoothly."



Widick explained fighting can be constructive if couples adhere to some "positive quarreling techniques." Although couples may be in the midst of a heated argument, they should express opinions,

desires, and concerns in a calm and lucid way.*

"Be willing to listen as well as talk," she advised. "Give up the irresponsible luxury of wild accusations, verbal abuse, threats of divorce, going home to mother, or committing suicide. Noise is no substitute for reason."

Widick said name-calling, as well as raking up old arguments, are not allowed in fair verbal marital conflicts. "Stick to the subject," she said.

Mealtime, bedtime, or the moment a spouse walks in the door from work are less than ideal times to air differences, she added.

Terri Lackey writes for the Sunday School Board.

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, November 13, 1986

Published Since 1877

Muslims target western Europe

By Art Toalston

BRUSSELS, Belgium (BP) — Followers of Islam believe Western Europe is fertile ground, according to a Southern Baptist missionary who works in church growth.

"Several Muslim groups have declared Western Europe as their main mission field," said William Wagner, a missionary who works with Southern Baptist missionaries in Europe in evangelism and missions planning.

"There are more nominal Christians becoming Muslims than Muslims becoming Christians," Wagner said in a telephone interview from here. The Muslim focus on Western Europe comes at a time when Wagner senses revival is coming to Baptists and other evangelicals.

England is the top priority of Muslim activists, and much of their activity is centered in London, Wagner said. Throughout Europe, however, many mosques are being constructed and abandoned. Christian churches have been purchased and converted into Muslim houses of worship.

Saudi Arabia actively has supported mission work in Europe, Wagner said. Most of the proselytizing is by Sunni Muslim groups based in Saudi Arabia and several other countries.

But he knows of no reliable estimates of how many Muslim missionaries are in Europe or how much has been spent on behalf of their work. Estimates of overall Muslim strength in Western Europe range from 5.5 million to 11 million adherents, he said.

Muslim missionaries have a firm sense of being "chosen and called out," Wagner said, "although their system is quite different" from Southern Baptists' approach, which involves both volunteers and lay people working abroad but is built around a core of career missionaries.

"Their mission force is more of a volunteer force, tent-maker types who go to a given country with a purpose of doing mission work but earning their own salaries," he explained.

These are fruitful times for Muslims, Baptists, and other evangelicals in Western Europe, Wagner added. "There is a definite spiritual void in Europe at this point. People who have not found the answers they're looking for in secularism and materialism... are turning to any religion that seems to have a means of filling the void."

Unfortunately, some of Western Europe's Christian communions have drifted toward "a questioning theology instead of a theology that gives answers," he said. "Basic doctrines of the Christian church and the authority of the Bible came into question." Various Roman Catholic and Protestant churches are "no longer able to give definite answers to the questions of modern man."

"Muslims have a very strong belief in the absolute authority and divinity of their book, the Koran," Wagner continued. "And quite often in their missionary endeavors they point to questioning Christian theologians and say, 'They don't believe even their own book. How is it possible, then, that the Bible could be true?'"

Baptists and other Christians with more resolute outlooks — those who ceaselessly say, "Let's find out what the Bible has to say to us" — have a unique opportunity not only to counter Muslim activists but also to evangelize them, Wagner said.

In many Islamic countries, Christian evangelism is outlawed and converts to Christianity often face harsh persecution and threats of death or bodily injury, he said. But in Western Europe, the law provides basic protections to all.

Wagner is excited by the spiritual renewal he senses in his travels, "a new desire and new zeal to move forward. In almost all of the countries, people are asking, 'How do we start new churches?'"

MasterLife also has contributed to enthusiasm for outreach, Wagner added.

Art Toalston writes for the Foreign Mission Board.



Lottie Moon works in Italy

Even in countries such as Italy, where the Christian faith enjoys a long tradition, there is still need for the witness of Southern Baptist missionaries such as Mississippian Bob Holifield. In his witness Holifield works alongside Italian Baptists such as Giuseppe Tuccitto, pastor of the Baptist church

in Senerchia. Mississippi Baptists support Holifield and his fellow Southern Baptist missionaries in Italy through the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. (Holifield and his wife, Flora, are now on furlough, living in Laurel.) (FMB) PHOTO By Don Rutledge

High court rejects Nativity dispute

WASHINGTON (BP) — The U.S. Supreme Court has decided not to reopen its internal debate over the constitutionality of cities' erection of Christmas nativity scenes.

In an order filed Nov. 3, the court — apparently without dissent — rejected an appeal by the city of Birmingham, Mich., that it consider overturning two lower court decisions banning a

25-year practice of placing the figures of the Christ Child, Mary, Joseph, shepherds and lambs on the front lawn of city hall during the Christmas season.

City attorneys argued in papers asking for the review that the lower panels' findings ran contrary to the high court's 1984 ruling in Lynch v.

Donnelly, a 5-4 decision upholding Pawtucket, R.I.'s longstanding practice of erecting a nativity scene on private property. In the Pawtucket dispute, the court noted, a key factor was the presence of other, secular seasonal figures set up with the creche. In Birmingham, the creche stood alone except for a Christmas tree and lights.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL
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Editorials . . . by Don McGregor

Foreign missions emphasis

Sunday through Wednesday, Nov. 16 through 19 marks the beginning of the annual emphasis on foreign missions. It is the foreign missions study sponsored by the Woman's Missionary Union. This year the study should be of particular interest to Mississippi Baptists because it is on South America and all of Latin America. From 1981 to 1985 Mississippi Baptists carried on a partnership with Uruguay, Paraguay, and Argentina. Friendships were forged in trips to these Rio de la Plata countries that will last throughout life.

The first partnership coordinator was a missionary to Uruguay, Jason Carlisle. His wife is Susan, a native of Jackson. They minister in Florida, Uruguay.

Many Mississippi missionaries serve throughout Latin America.

So Mississippi definitely has a stake and an interest in missions work in all of Latin America including South America.

During the course of the partnership arrangement, two missionaries, Wally and Betty Poor of Missouri, became friends of the writer. They both were journalists before becoming missionaries. They work in Canelones, Uruguay.

The annual week of prayer for foreign missions begins on Nov. 30. Concurrent with the week of prayer will be the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions. The Foreign Mission Board depends on the Lottie Moon Offering for about half of its annual budget. The national goal for the offering this year is \$75 million. All of the income from the Lottie Moon Offering goes to finance overseas mission work. Headquarters administrative expenses come out of Cooperative Program funds, which account for the other half of Foreign Mission Board budgeting.

We have no choice in missions support. The Master said to go and teach all nations the things that he had

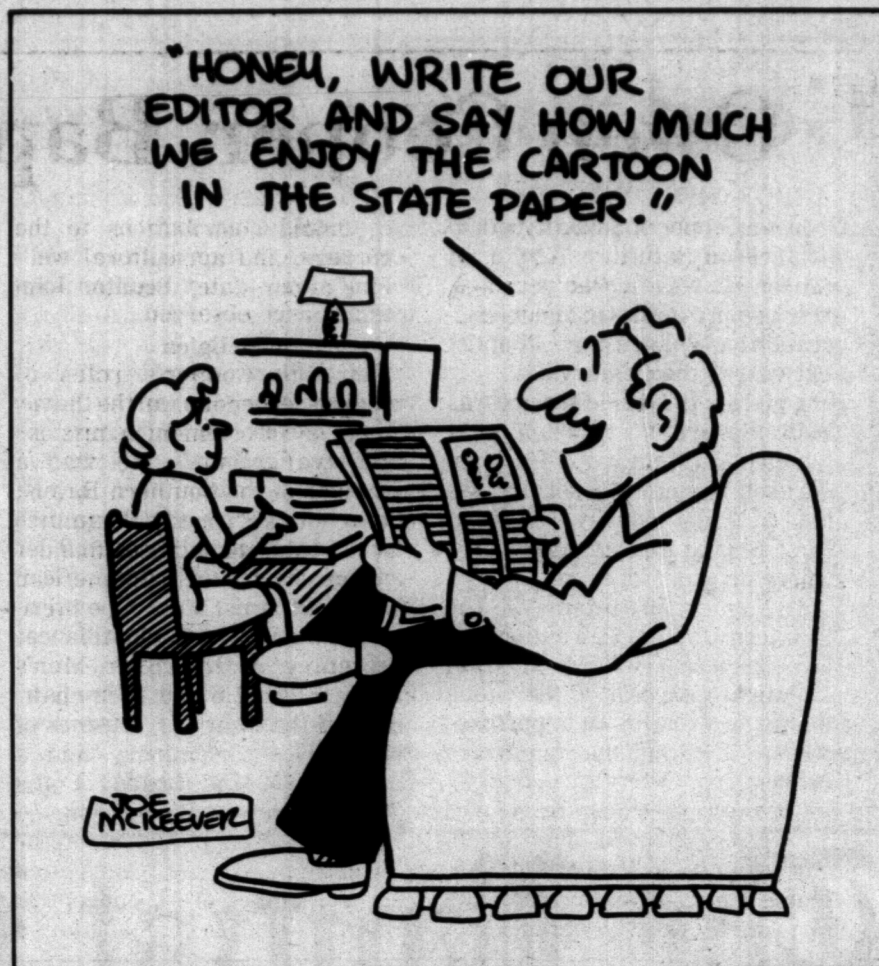
made known. We are doing that in the best way that we can in that we recently have entered the 108th nation in the world with our missions force. That's not all of the nations, but it is more than ever before. There are others where we need to go. We need people who will go, and we need money to send them. We also need money to provide the necessary tools for the people who are already on the fields so that they will be able to work effectively. We are able to make it possible for our missionaries to teach the nations where they are by giving to missions through the Cooperative Program and particularly by contributing to the Lottie Moon Offering.

The Master pointed out that all power had been given to him in heaven and in earth. And he said, I am with you always, even to the end of the world. So the power that he has is ours to make missions work effective throughout the world. To make this power useful for ourselves as we

minister to around the world in the Master's name, we need to release that power through making enough money available so that it can be put

to work.

The Master can work without us. If we want to have a part in the work, however, that is the way for us to do it.



Layman of the century

Owen Cooper was born in Mississippi and educated in Mississippi's schools. His influence, however, circled the globe; and just about the totality of his interests and endeavors revolved around serving his fellow man based on his religious convictions.

He died last week, but his influence will continue to be felt through ages to come because he established organizations in places throughout the world to promote a Christian witness. In 1982 the Baptist Record published a feature article on Cooper in which it sought to list the many such endeavors that he had initiated

around the world. The list took more than half a page of the paper.

We will not try to duplicate that list. That is not the purpose of this writing. This piece is an effort to pay tribute to the man who had such a heart that he could not stay at home and take it easy. He spent his life in service to others, and retirement only accelerated that service.

I did not know him as long as others did. I am not a native Mississippian, and so only knew him by his influence until at the Southern Baptist Convention in 1972 in Philadelphia, Pa., Jerry Clower, in nominating him for president of the convention, said he didn't

come to town on a watermelon truck; and he was elected. I watched him serve as president in 1973 in Portland, Ore., and in 1974 in Dallas. Then I moved to Mississippi and became acquainted with him.

One of the more interesting facets of this work is the opportunity to meet great people.

He was one of them.

His greatness was universally recognized. He served as president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, chairman of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, vice-chairman for the Baptist World Alliance, and chairman of the trustees of New Orleans

Seminary.

When the president of the United States came to Mississippi, he spent the night in the Cooper's home. Last year he was named Layman of the Century by Mississippi Baptists.

He spoke in every state in the United States and in countries on every continent in the world.

And the list goes on, and on, and on. He was involved in agriculture missions work around the world and directly responsible for missions endeavors in India and Honduras.

Yet probably his firmest allegiance lay in his membership in First Baptist Church, Yazoo City.

He built church houses when there was not enough money in the congregations to build them. He donated property on which to build church houses.

But this was all sort of a sideline in his life. Mainly, he loved the Lord; and he wanted to serve people.

He has passed from among us, and we will miss him. He surely will not be forgotten, however, for there are monuments to him all over the world. It must be noted, however, that he didn't build monuments. He went out to serve, and the service became the monuments. He didn't intend for it to be that way.

He simply was following the Lord.

Guest opinion

Decisions or disciples?

By Guy Henderson

How many decisions were there? This is a question heard often in evangelistic circles, and it is an important question. Each decision means a soul for whom Christ died.

However a study of the New Testament will reveal that Christ was interested in disciples perhaps more than decisions. Several times he could have chalked up decisions but chose not to take that route. He did not run after the rich young ruler, nor beg him, nor lessen the demands of discipleship in order to gain a new convert. He wanted something more than a raised hand, a name on a card, or good statistics.

John the Baptizer had repentance as his sermon theme and "fruits worthy of repentance" as the first point. Jesus urged "would be" followers to take a long look and let your righteousness exceed that of the Pharisees. Those who did the will of God were his brothers and sisters. This was a lifelong discipline which would incorporate the totality of man's life into loving God and loving thy neighbor as thyself. He presented no easy believism but made clear the demands and sacrifices. There was a cross to bear, a cup from whence one would drink. Count the cost of building a tower or making war with kings

before you begin the journey. He did not dilute his message even when many followers drew back because of his hard sayings. He was not looking for decisions but disciples.

Christianity had its beginning in a lay movement. Every believer was considered a minister. No great ecclesiastical gulf separated clergy and laity. As the role of the clergy ascended, the role of the lay people became that of a spectator. He comes, he sits, he is inspired and then he goes home. Christianity is over for that week.

Ephesians 4:11-13 and 4:15-16 give concepts and principles that yet remain valid:

1. The local church is the primary means of evangelism and equipping.

2. The priesthood of the believer indicates that each Christian is to be involved in ministry, exercising his or her gift.

3. Christians must be equipped to share their faith and to witness to others.

4. The pastor's primary task is the equipping of the saints.

5. The growth of the body results in evangelism and discipling.

We err greatly when we rush from soul to soul heedless of the new convert's growth and maturation. We can fill our pews with people ready for

heaven but of little earthly good. The Lausanne Conference and the Amsterdam '86 Conference were correct in declaring the results of evangelism to include obedience to Christ, incorporation into his church, and responsible service in the world. We sing lustily on "Bring Them In" but stumble badly on "Serve Him, Serve Him."

Could it be that we rejoice greatly in a sinner coming home but little about the shoes, ring, and garments — not to mention the party. Masters in obstetrics and such novices in pediatrics, we note the birth and then

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The Baptist Record

VOLUME 110

(ISSN 0005-5778)

NUMBER 40

Published weekly except weeks of July 4 and Christmas. Subscription \$7.35 a year payable in advance. Second class postage paid at Jackson, Mississippi. The Baptist Record is a member of Southern Baptist Press Association.

Editor Don McGregor
Associate Editor Tim Nicholas
Assistant Editor Anne McWilliams
Advertising Coordinator Evelyn Keyes
Editorial Assistant Florence Larrimore
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Send news and communications to
The Editor, Baptist Record
P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

Owen Cooper, Baptist statesman, dies

Owen Cooper of Yazoo City died in Jackson Saturday, Nov. 8, of cancer. He was 78. One year ago, Mississippi Baptists in annual convention had saluted him as Baptist Layman of the Century.

A private graveside service was held Saturday afternoon at Lakewood Memorial Park in Jackson. A memorial service was held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 9, at First Baptist Church, Yazoo City, where he was a deacon.

A former president of the Southern Baptist Convention and the founder of Mississippi Chemical Corporation, he was a leader in religion, politics, economics, and humanitarian causes.

"In my time I have not known any Mississippian who has exceeded Owen Cooper's record of combining contributions to church and all phases of religious activity with

... untold contributions to the economic and agricultural well-being of our state," Senator John Stennis once observed.

Religion

Through Cooper's roles of religious leadership ran the theme, "more lay involvement in missions and evangelism." He was a member of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee for 21 years. He had been founder and president of the Pan American Union of Baptist Men; vice president of the Baptist World Alliance; secretary of the BWA Men's Department. He had been chairman of the Board of Trustees of New Orleans Seminary and a member of the board of the Southern Baptist Foundation.

He had been president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and a member of its Convention Board. He had been chairman of

the Christian Education Commission and a trustee of the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center.

He had spoken in churches in every state of the U.S. and on every continent. He had led mission groups to Montana, California, Ohio, Hawaii, and Spain. He had helped to establish numerous churches in the United States and in Central and South America and had helped many of them buy their property and their buildings. At one time he owned five church buildings in Montana (when they could be built for \$10,000.).

One of his most far-reaching involvements was with the Universal Concern in India movement, a concept of helping to provide monetary support for Indian evangelists in their own country.

He was chairman of the Board of Directors for Agricultural Missions Foundation and president of

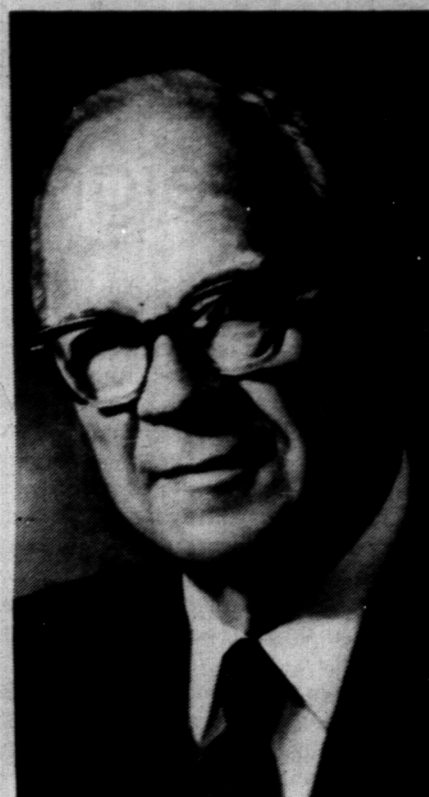
Global Outreach, both groups interested in providing support for the efforts of agricultural missionaries all over the world.

He was one of the early planners of Southern Baptists' missionary vision — Bold Mission Thrust — and had been cited as "the mastermind, the far-sighted force" that culminated in its instigation.

"Cooper is a behind-the-scenes worker," wrote Don McGregor, Baptist Record editor, in 1982 "but he manages to get things done. He also inspires cooperation. His own church, First, Yazoo City, has one of the broadest direct mission programs in the SBC. Yet, the church ranks among the top churches in the SBC in per capita giving through the Cooperative Program."

Cooper played a key role in the establishment of an interdenominational organization of

(Continued on page 7)



Owen Cooper

The Second Front Page

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, November 13, 1986

Published Since 1877

Convention Board names Smith to replace Perkins

By Tim Nicholas

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, meeting just before the convention in Jackson last week, approved employment of two staffers and declined to reconsider adding back administrative funding formerly given to Clarke College, now being divided among three remaining Baptist colleges in the state.

Louis Smith, 52, pastor of First Church, Canton, was elected to succeed Clifton Perkins as director of the Church Minister Relations and Annuity Department. Perkins, 69, retires at the end of December.

Smith, a Greenville native, will begin work the first of December. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and earned the master of divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary. Smith was pastor of Briarwood Drive Church, Jackson, from 1966 until he went to the Canton pastorate in 1977. Earlier he was pastor of churches in El Dorado, Ark., and Prichard, Ala.

Smith is a former chairman of the MBCB Executive Committee. He was moderator of Hinds-Madison Association, and is a member of the SBC Annuity Board.

Jan Cossitt was hired as Acteens

consultant for the Woman's Missionary Union Department. A graduate of Mississippi University for Women, she earned a master of education degree from Mississippi College.

She was for 10 years director of activities and youth at Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, and has been part time director of youth and activities

at Raymond Church, Raymond. Miss Cossitt has been interim Acteens consultant for the past year. Her duties will also include working with missionary kids on the college campuses.

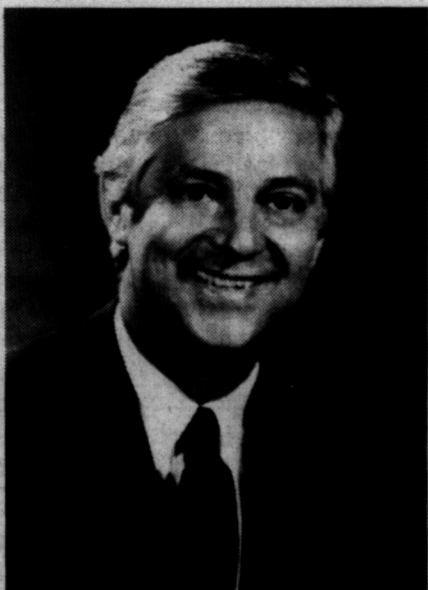
Board members rejected by a vote of 14-47, with a number abstaining, a measure by W. L. Compere, a former president of Clarke College, that would have returned administrative funding divisions among the Baptist colleges to the 1984 figure which allocated 22 percent of the administrative funds to Clarke and 26 to the other schools. Clarke loses three percent each year to the others.

An earlier move phases out separate Clarke administrative funding since it no longer is a separate entity and has operated under the trustees of Mississippi College since 1981.

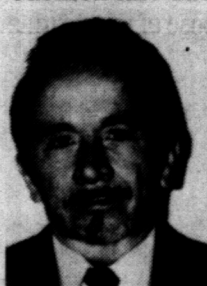
Compere began what turned into a 40 minute discussion of the matter with a number of board members citing their frustration over hearing rumors that Clarke's campus program would eventually close.

One member asked Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the MBCB, to ask MC President Lewis Nobles to the next such meeting so that questions may be answered more directly.

(Note: This story was written before the Tuesday session of the MBC began.)



Louis Smith



Quinn

Members of the Mississippi Baptist Executive Committee meeting in Jackson last Tuesday elected Leroy Quinn as computer programmer, approved longevity awards for employees, and heard a report that Gulfshore additions are on indefinite hold.

Quinn, 46, is a Jackson native and a graduate of Belhaven College. From 1962-74, Quinn headed the data processing department at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center and was a real estate broker, 1974-81.

He was a programmer for Magna American Corp., 1982-85, and has worked part time at the MBCB in programming for the past year.

Effective in January, 1987, convention board employees will receive a gift equal to one-half percent of their salaries on their fifth anniversary of employment, with an additional half-percent for each additional five years. This replaces the customary awarding of employees pins. The full board will vote on this in December. Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the MBCB, reported that additions to Gulfshore Baptist Assembly in the form of housing and cafeteria renovations are being put off until the Gulfshore study committee can review the situation. Current interpretations of insurance rates and regulations increase the cost of flood insurance for a renovation of Gulfshore from \$850 per year to \$130,825 for only \$750,000 worth of insurance. Said Kelly, "all future decisions must be

made in light of the Federal Emergency Management Agency ruling on flood insurance rates."

In other matters the Executive Committee voted financial aid to help black students enrolled in the New Orleans Seminary program at Mississippi Baptist Seminary. Southern Baptist seminary policy gives tuition breaks only to Southern Baptists. The total aid for this school year is \$1,200.

The committee approved purchases of a computer printer for the Baptist Record for \$6,300; computer terminal for the Baptist Record for \$1,332, a lawn tractor for Gulfshore for \$4,895, a pickup truck for Gulfshore for up to \$9,200.

Members also approved covering the cost overrun of \$1,852 for a publication of "Mississippi Baptist Convention Ministers: Current Biographies" book by the Historical Commission, approved \$10,300 for the difference in a trade between a 1985 and 1987 Oldsmobile for the executive secretary; they approved a gift of \$500 from disaster funds for the Corinth Baptist Church Mission in Kemper County to assist in replacing a roof damaged by wind. And members approved covering a negative balance of \$7,463.91 from the Mississippi Biracial Commission.

On recommendations from the respective counties, members elected board members to serve unexpired terms: Harrison Weger to replace Trent Grubbs, Ralph Culp to replace Eugene Walden, Leland Hurt to replace the late Buford Sellers, Carl White to replace Paul Skinner, and John Ira Hill to replace Franklin Haire.

Executive Committee

Report says Gulfshore additions are on hold

Frank Gunn re-elected president

Frank Gunn, pastor of First Church, Biloxi, was re-elected without opposition to a second term as president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention in session this week. His presidential address is on page 4.



Frank Gunn

The best is yet to be!

By Frank Gunn

The intended purpose of the President's Address is to be a presentation of the state of the convention. During the past year I have attended most of the committee meetings and traveled much of our state and visited a number of churches and associations. I have spent a lot of time in the Baptist Building in the past year. However, I confess to you I am no authority as I share this message on the state of our convention.

Last year, only moments after you elected me to serve as your president, the Ezekiel 37 passage flashed across my mind for the biblical foundation for this message today. At that time, I had no idea how it might be used one year later. Look with me now at this passage as God has directed.

The prophet saw in the valley human bones that were very dry. What he saw symbolized the whole house of Israel. Their exile had become not only their physical but national burial site. Their hopes, dreams, and glories had been entombed in a foreign land. The hope for national survival would be revived by the Spirit of God within them. They would be freed from the graveyard of the exile, restored to favor, and returned to their homeland. Ezekiel responded to a supernatural power of God rather than his own humanity as he preached to the dry bones in the valley. The result of his preaching was the coming together of the bones. The muscles and sinews knit again. Flesh once more covered the skeletons. Finally, breath came into those bones and they lived again. I would not dare suggest that we are as dead, dry, bleached bones, I am suggesting, like the bones in the valley, that we receive the breath of God to give us more life and power. That we will no longer be complacent and content with the status quo. May the breath and spirit of God bring to us revival that can be explained only in supernatural terms.

Let me begin on a very positive note. It is not intended for bragging but for expressing gratitude. So many good things continue to take place in our state. Rejoice with me in God's blessings.

1. Generally, the spirit of peace and unity prevails in our state. This does not imply that everyone is pleased and happy but it does suggest that there is a cooperative spirit among Mississippi Baptists. I am sure the continuing efforts of the Peace Committee have influenced most as we have been urged to use restraint and to refrain from divisive actions and comments. Hopefully, the reminder to reflect Christian love has spoken to all of us.

2. We can rejoice that the Mississippi Baptist Convention continues to spend 1/2 percent more to Southern Baptist causes each year through our Cooperative Program gifts. This plan was begun back in 1974 when we were giving 29.23 percent. This year the figure is 36.04 and will increase to 36.50 percent upon approval of the 1987 budget.

3. We are grateful for the fine Convention Board staff that leads us from our Baptist Building. They face a near impossible task of attempting to serve all over this state. They are

a professional, dedicated staff who need to have our interest and prayer support shared with them on a daily basis. I cannot express the gratitude I felt when I read the Convention Board Report prepared by our executive secretary-treasurer. It reveals a multiplicity of victories all accomplished in the name of Christ.

4. Mississippi Baptists and friends continue to respond so favorably to the Mississippi Mission Endowment Campaign for our colleges and the Baptist Children's Village. The 40 million campaign was thought to be an impossibility by many, but we now find the figure is already approaching 22 million as we prepare to share the need with Mississippi churches. This endowment emphasis will mean so much for many years to come.



These are representative of some of the good, positive things happening in our state. I would like to spend more time expressing gratitude, but let us now look at some of our deficiencies.

1. Our evangelistic results represent a cause for deep concern. In 1985, Mississippi Baptists, numbering 649,061, won and baptized 14,890. The 1986 figures were not available at publication time but we do know that 70 percent of our churches participated in the Good News America revivals and that 2,353 professions of faith were recorded and over 10,000 rededications took place in that emphasis alone.

Bold Mission Thrust began in 1976. During the nine years from 1975-76 to 1984-85 an annual average of 380,000 baptisms were recorded in the Southern Baptist Convention. The last year in the survey revealed a decline of 33,425 from the nine years earlier figure. Orrin Morris, former Mississippi pastor and now Home Mission Board Research Division director, recently said, "If American Christianity continues sluggish growth there will be between 170 and 175 million lost persons in the United States by 1990."

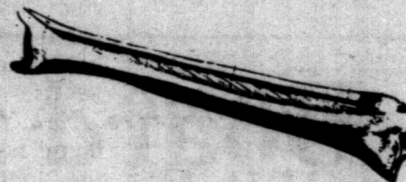
Many of you will recall a few years ago when George Gallup in his own denomination did an extensive piece of research. He discovered that only one out of ten had ever shared the knowledge of Jesus . . . or attempted to . . . with another human.

2. Our financial support through the Cooperative Program continues to be a major concern. At the end of October, we were \$680,781 under the budget guideline. It appears, unless our giving increases dramatically, that we will miss the 1986 Budget by some \$500,000 to \$600,000. Most likely, the major reason is so many of our local churches are under in budget receipts, including my own. This challenges us to improve our ways with better information, challenge, and programs for our people.

The best available is for our people to have a disciplined plan for their own personal growth in giving. Earlier, I pointed out our convention is increasing by one-half percent each year. We pastors must help to lead our churches to this same kind of growth in giving. The local churches can do this only as individual members move in the direction of a disciplined plan of faith in action.

3. The growing number of forced terminations in our churches represents a major problem. There are a lot of churches in conflict. Yes . . . even in our state. The conflict and hurt is often among staff members. More often it is found between the staff members and the members of the congregation. Most of us need to remove our pride and stubbornness and really be a part of the team concept. Few people realize the valuable assistance rendered in our state for the past 11 years by Clifton Perkins. His role as church minister relations and annuity director has touched most of us across these years of special service and ministry.

4. We have improved, but there is still some mistrust and suspicion in Mississippi Baptist Convention life. There are probably some who thrive on controversy even at the expense of tale



bearing, gossiping, and jumping to conclusions. We must rid ourselves of pre-conceived ideas, accusations, and the use of labels trying to classify people.

The proper use of God's solution will allow us all to say, "The best is yet to be in the life of Mississippi Baptists."

1. We must continue a major emphasis on the precious Word of God. I have never forgotten the wise words my preacher — grandfather gave me in the latter years of his retirement. He was giving to me his personal library and the last book he presented was his own Master Index Bible. I will never forget his words. "Son, no matter how much you read these other books, never forget the Book!"

2. We must continue preaching and teaching that there is only one Lord, our blessed Lord Jesus, who purchased us with his own blood. How wonderful it is to be able to sing, "The Old Account Was Settled Long Ago" because we know we have come through the way of the cross.

3. There is no doubt that the controversy among Baptists has caused us to pray more. We have seen our dependency upon God and, hopefully, we have been praying for each other much more. Prayer can be that key for a spiritual awakening to take place.

4. We must live lives that are genuine. Integrity seems to be the missing ingredient in many lives. We must work toward regaining the trust in our relationships. I was watching a Biloxi

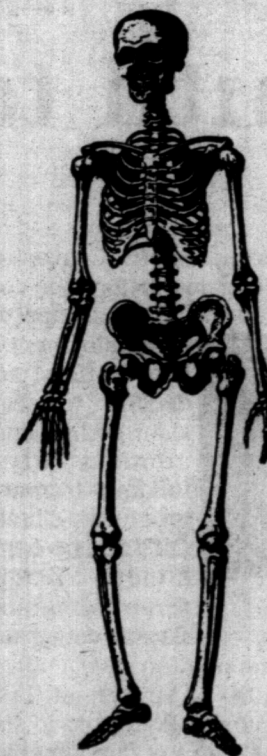
High football game last season when I noticed a most unusual situation at half time. The visiting band was performing and I had a close-up view with the binoculars. I focused in on a young man with a sousaphone. He was doing everything right in the performance. It was then I noticed he had no mouth piece — therefore no music was coming from the instrument. What we say and do must be genuine as we rid ourselves of the veneer and pretense that plagues so many lives.

5. The fields are white, the opportunities are great, but the bearers of the good news are few. God has mandated to us the witnessing to people where we live and to the uttermost parts of the earth. We are not responsible for the response, but it is our responsibility to share the message of Christ and his invitation.

6. I would hope all of us are burdened concerning the increasing victories Satan is experiencing in our homes and with our families. We must do a better job of reaching out to those in need. I challenge all of us to be helpful — not judgemental. We need to love people and help them put the broken pieces of life back together again.

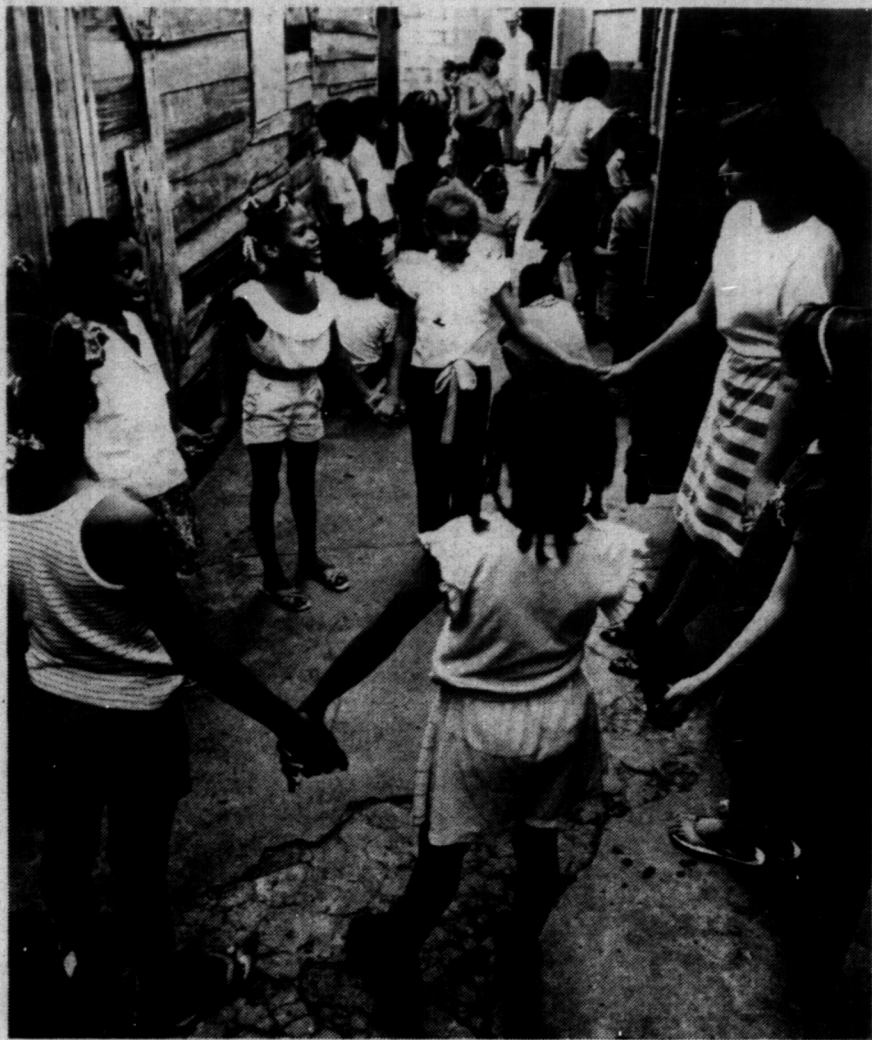
I suppose all of us have heard the story of the general who was losing the battle and called for his drummer boy and said, "Son, beat a retreat! Beat a retreat!"

The lad replied: "Sir, I cannot beat a retreat. I do not know how. I was never taught, but I can beat a charge that will make the very dead fall in line!"



He did, the battle turned, and they won. May we hear the charge of God just as those bones in the valley heard the preaching of Ezekiel. We can then say, "Holy Spirit, breathe on me, Fill me with power divine, Kindle a flame of love and zeal, within this heart of mine."

Frank Gunn, president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, is pastor, First, Biloxi.



Carmen plays a game

Single adults in ministry are as vital overseas as they are in the United States. In the Dominican Republic, Carmen Guzman (right) plays a game with the children of Jerusalem Baptist Church during the time between Sunday School and worship service. Guzman, a Sunday School teacher, also helps lead worship. Her first interest in Jesus Christ eight years ago eventually drew her father, brother, and three sisters into church. (FMB) PHOTO By Don Rutledge

Lowndes CAC will sponsor Legislative Issues Forum

The Christian Action Committee of the Lowndes Baptist Association is sponsoring a Legislative Issues Forum Nov. 18, at 7 p.m. to provide residents with a chance to hear the views of their state legislators and to ask questions.

Randy Weeks, Christian Action Committee director, said "I have spoken with Senator Canon and Representatives Ellis, Hanson, McCrary, and Shumake and all of them are planning to participate." In addition, Paul Jones, executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission and Ann Allen, commission secretary, will be panelists.

"The point of this forum," said Weeks, minister of music and youth at

East End Church, Columbus "is to help us be better informed about pending legislation. We're not engaging in partisan politics; this is not a part of a 'new right' agenda. But a part of the work of the Christian Action Committee is encouraging responsible citizenship. We believe that by creating dialogue between our leaders and the 'home front' we are producing a climate for well-informed progress."

The Forum will be held at the Baptist Student Center, 1321 2nd. Ave., S. in Columbus. Panel members will each give a brief overview of those issues they see as most vital for the next legislative session. The public will then be given the opportunity to ask questions.

For further information phone Weeks at 328-0166.

South Mississippi seminar is planned: Prayer for Awakening

A South Mississippi regional seminar on Prayer for Spiritual Awakening will take place Nov. 20-21 at First Church, Biloxi.

Glenn L. Sheppard, formerly Home Mission Board consultant in spiritual awakening, now leading in international prayer ministries, will be principal speaker. Guy Henderson, evangelism director of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will also be on program along with several pastors and lay persons.

Sheppard's topics are "The Need for a PSA Conference," "Vision for

Revival," "Can it Happen Again?" "Hungry for Revival?" "Experiencing Personal Awakening," and "Lord, Do it Again."

Henderson will speak on "PSA and Your Church," "Leading PSA in Your Church," "The Biblical Meaning of Prayer," and "A Prayer Ministry in Your Church."

Sessions begin at 7 p.m., Nov. 20, and conclude at 9 the next evening.

For additional information, contact Bobby Perry, Gulf Coast director of missions at 832-4311 in Gulfport.

National study puts Nobles in top 18 of most effective college presidents

Lewis Nobles, President of Mississippi College and Clarke College which operates as a Division of Mississippi College, has been identified by his peers as being among the 18 most effective college presidents in the United States.

His selection was based on a two-year project funded by the Exxon Education Foundation entitled "The Effective College President." The study was designed by James L. Fisher, president emeritus of CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education) in Washington, D.C. and author of the book, *The Power of the Presidency*, and Martha Tack, professor of educational administration and supervision at Bowling Green State University.

The study examined the personal characteristics, professional background, and attitudinal differences that personify the men and women who were identified by their peers as

the nation's most effective college presidents.

According to Fisher, "This study demonstrates that effective presidents are different. They are strong risk-taking leaders with a dream."

Preliminary results of the study show that the effective president relies on respect rather than popularity; believes less in close collegial relationships than does his, or her, representative counterpart; tends to work longer hours and does not speak spontaneously as frequently as does the representative president; does not believe as strongly in organizational structure as do representative presidents. Additionally, the most acclaimed presidents care deeply about the welfare of the individual and encourage people to think creatively; appear to make decisions more easily than their representative counterparts; and take more risks in order to move the institution forward; and do

not choose another president as a confidant as frequently as do representative presidents.

According to Tack, "While these data are not definitive, the finds represent the most significant research currently available on the subject of presidential effectiveness."

The 18 most effective presidents in the country which were identified included 17 men and one woman. Eight of the 18 were presidents of private, or independent, institutions while 10 were in the public sector.

Other presidents in the private sector, in addition to Nobles, were Timothy S. Healy of Georgetown University; Theodore M. Hesburgh of Notre Dame; Steven Muller of Johns Hopkins University; John R. Silber of Boston University; Howard R. Swearer of Brown University; Bruce E. Whitaker of Chowan College and Jeanette T. Wright, the only woman in the top 18, of Bay Path Junior College in Longmeadow, Massachusetts.

Homeless keep on increasing

As cold weather approaches, a study by the National Coalition for the Homeless says the nation's homeless population has grown 25 percent this year.

New York City, with about 80,000 homeless persons, was No. 1 among the 21 cities surveyed. St. Louis had the largest percentage of increase — 100 percent of 15,000 people. The report compared the first nine months of 1986 with all of 1985.

Meanwhile, studies show families hit by economic or domestic crisis are joining the ranks of the homeless in accelerating numbers.

At least 20 percent of the nation's homeless are families. In major cities, families total 28 percent of all homeless, according to the U.S. Conference on Mayors.

A survey of 25 cities shows 60 percent of the homeless are single men, 28 percent are families and 12 percent are single women. — USA TODAY

Just for the Record

The Young Adult Choir and orchestra of Woodland Hills Church, Jackson, will present the musical, *Reconciliation*, in the evening worship service on Nov. 16, at 7 p.m.

Written in the style of a Broadway musical, the production traces the story of God's continuing attempts to show mankind his love as indicated in the parables told by Jesus Christ, and through Christ's own sacrifice.

Lee Meadows is the dramatic director of the production and the musical director is James Glass.

The article received last week stated the date was Nov. 9.

The Senior Adult Club of Star Church will meet Nov. 18, at 10:30 a.m. at Star Church, Star. They are having a Minnie Pearl and Grampa Jones Day.





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For additional information call (601) 932-5084 or (601) 353-0803 or call Spring House toll free 1-800-826-5239.

A SPRING HOUSE PROMOTION

Government intensifies crackdown on burgeoning pornography industry

By David Wilkinson

WASHINGTON (BP) — Recent developments in the nation's capital have added muscle to the crackdown on America's burgeoning pornography industry.

Attorney General Edwin Meese announced Oct. 22 a series of proposals aimed at beefing up the Justice Department's anti-pornography efforts.

Plans include a special task force,

an obscenity prosecution center and a variety of legislative proposals.

A few days earlier, the U.S. Senate unanimously approved legislation closing loopholes in federal laws against child pornography. The bill, along with companion legislation in the Senate, had been supported by staff members of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

Meese announced the Justice

Department's prosecution center will train prosecutors, provide expert witnesses, and draft model anti-pornography legislation. The center will be augmented by a task force of U.S. lawyers to help prosecute what Meese called "organized criminal enterprises" now controlling the \$8 billion pornography industry.

Meese also proposed laws to:

- Ban anyone under age 21 from performing in sexually-explicit films.
- Ban obscene cable TV programs.
- Seize sales proceeds from pornographic activities.
- End "dial-a-porn" telephone messages.

The proposals incorporated many of the recommendations made in August by the Attorney General's Commission on Pornography.

In addition to specific legislative actions, Larry Braidfoot of the Christian Life Commission said the obscenity prosecution center could become a key weapon in the battle against pornography. The center, he said, "can provide important help for those government entities which occasionally find themselves facing a battery of well-paid attorneys who work almost exclusively in defending persons and corporations accused of violating obscenity laws."

Braidfoot, who coordinates the agency's work on pornography issues, said obscenity prosecutions often are hampered by the mismatch of seasoned defense attorneys working against local or state attorneys with little experience in obscenity cases.

Meese's proposals came on the heels of congressional action outlawing the advertising of child pornography and solicitation of children for sexual purposes. While production and distribution of child pornography is illegal, loopholes in federal laws have allowed for open advertising of such materials.

The bill also makes it a crime to transport a child across state lines for sexual activity, whether for private or commercial use.

David Wilkinson writes for the Christian Life Commission.



Hospital going up at Southaven

Clarence L. Stanford, Ripley, Miss., dentist and chairman of the Executive Committee of Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc. welcomes 250 persons to the ground-breaking ceremony for the system's new 130-bed Baptist Memorial Hospital-DeSoto at Southaven Oct. 26. Behind him are (from left) Roger Struble, system senior vice president, and U.S. Rep. Jamie Whitten of Charleston, Miss., a major speaker. Located at the Interstate 55 and Goodman Road intersection just south of the Tennessee/Mississippi line, the hospital complex will contain 100 acute care beds and a 30-bed rehabilitation unit, as well as a professional office building with space to accommodate 30 physicians. The full-service care center will offer obstetrical services, a 24-hour emergency service and intensive and critical care units. When operational, the hospital will employ 300 people.

A tribute to Owen Cooper

By Earl Kelly

Owen Cooper, at age 78, has gone home to be with the Lord he loved so dearly and served so remarkably!

As expressions of sorrow continue to pour in from all over the globe, one can almost hear him say, "Now that I am gone, speak not of Owen Cooper, but speak of Owen Cooper's God."

In so doing this man, who for over 40 years has been Mississippi's most dynamic Baptist laymen, would be borrowing the words of one of his favorite mentors from history — William Carey, the 18th century father of modern missions.

Actually, the two men had much in common — Carey and Cooper. They both set their courses and pursued them with diligence. They accepted obstacles as challenges. Their deepest convictions were never dimmed by voices of contrary opinions.

Like William Carey, Cooper was at home with himself and therefore never felt threatened by the presence of other great people. He comfortably bridged gaps of differences, ultimately winning respect. As a risk-taker he often broke mental and spiritual new ground but sincerely appreciated those who could point out the stumps he had missed. He had the knack of gathering about him people who possessed the gifts of discernment and he honored them when they improved on an idea or even helped him to discard one and move on to another.

Perhaps as no other Mississippian in many years, Owen Cooper had the unique ability of capturing the imagination of ordinary people, helping them to visualize the potential power of proving their faith by their works. They followed him to mission fields to preach and to teach. They gathered thousands of books to help him equip Christians abroad. They promptly responded as he found ways to send food to hunger victims. They stood with him against the social evils of our day.

Like William Carey, Owen Cooper's heart ached for a lost world. Whereas Carey went to India, translated the Bible, fought satanic cultural practices, and preached the story of Christ for 40 years, Owen Cooper went to Yazoo City, founded an industry to help farmers, took unpopular stands on human rights, faithfully served his local church and his denomination, traveled world-wide to see spiritual and physical needs first hand, and reached out to touch thousands of lives in the name of Jesus Christ.

Owen Cooper's mind never took a rest. Although he always appeared calm, his brain was dreaming dreams and making plans for bringing those dreams to fruition. "The thought just occurred to me," was a signal to those standing by that a "project" was in the making and that within minutes they would become involved — a scene repeated hundreds of times.

Southern Baptists owe to Owen Cooper much of the credit for inspiring us to go forth with Bold Mission Thrust, for the insistence of the massive use of volunteers in missions, and for the emphasis on the urgency of our everyday Christian witness to a lost world about us.

Elizabeth Cooper, married to Owen for nearly half a century, has walked beside him, encouraged every dream, prayed through every problem, smiled through every accomplishment, and has seen the greatness of her husband recognized by a crowd of witnesses around the world.

We will all miss Owen Cooper's voice. We will miss his leadership, his courage, and his drive. But, most of all, we will miss that simple, steadfast, reflection of the presence of Jesus Christ. And in his death, as in his life, we will see Owen Cooper's God.

Earl Kelly is executive secretary-treasurer, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer. Editorial prerogatives must be reserved under all circumstances, and the opinions of the letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Baptist Record. Only signed letters will be used, but the writer may request that his name be withheld.

Operation food mission

Editor:

I have read with considerable interest the article by Tim Nicholas, "Operation Hope found a need and filled it." Your readers, especially in Jones County, might be interested to know Operation Hope was patterned, in part at least, after our own "Christian Food Mission, Inc." One of our directors, Robert Smith, cooperated extensively with Mrs. Mackey before the feeding center was established in the old hospital. It is heart warming

to learn of the progress "Operation Hope" has made with the cooperation of the Home Mission Board and the Wayne County and Waynesboro city officials. Our own operation has had the cooperation of county and city officials; but we have thus far been largely supported by individual contributions and volunteer help, cooking and distributing meals.

We do have two minimally paid workers; but like "Operation Hope," it is a struggle to pay them monthly

from time to time.

Our vision is to establish in Christ's name a permanent facility (supported entirely by the local churches in Laurel), devoted to preparing and distributing meals to those in need who by reason of health or physical handicap or recuperation of hospitalization cannot prepare their own meals. We are currently feeding about 375 meals per week to such people and hope to expand as we receive additional financial resources and volunteers. We solicit the prayers and the support of your readers to the end that God will prosper our effort to feed the hungry in Laurel and Jones County.

Thomas Shearer, president
Christian Food Mission Inc.
Laurel

Thanks to New Hope

Editor:

On Oct. 26, New Hope Baptist Church in Webster County hosted a centennial celebration, a very meaningful homecoming. I want to publicly say thank you to the present membership for such a wonderful program and express my appreciation to those members who over the years have been so faithful to God and to his church. What excellent examples they have been for us young Christians!

There was evidence of much preliminary work by the pastor, Rev. Paul Weddle, and members to assure the centennial program gave an accurate account of the church's beginning. Mrs. Maurice Griffin wrote and directed the program, and I want to

express my appreciation to her, not only for that but also for the consistency of her Christian witness both now and in times past.

Betty Nail
Longview Baptist Church
Oktibbeha Association

The Foreign Mission Board used 89.7 percent of all income for missionary support and overseas expenditures in 1985.

Between 400 million and 1 billion people are chronically malnourished. Running on "empty," 21 children die every minute.

Owen Cooper, Baptist statesman, dies at 78

(Continued from page 3)

Mississippi's religious leaders, the Mississippi Religious Leadership Conference.

Owen Cooper was born April 19, 1908, to Warren County farmers William and Malena Cooper. He was graduated from Mississippi State University with a bachelor's degree in agriculture. (While there, he was one year president of the Baptist Student Union.) He later earned a master's degree in economics and political science from the University of Mississippi and a law degree from what was then Jackson School of Law (now Mississippi College School of Law.) He also studied at the University of Southern California.

Business

After graduation from State, Cooper worked for the university alumni association. Then he taught vocational-technical arts and coached girls' basketball at Leland High School. After a short stay with the state Planning Commission in Jackson, he was in 1939 appointed executive director of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation. He was instrumental in founding the Southern Farm Bureau's life insurance and casualty insurance programs and the Mississippi Blue Cross health insurance operation. Also he was instrumental in setting up the Mississippi Hospital Commission.

In 1948, he conceived the idea for a farmer-owned chemical corporation and made that idea a reality with the formation of Mississippi Chemical Corporation, the first farmer-owned synthetic nitrogen plant in the world. He was president of the company until retirement in 1973 and on its board of directors until his death.

He was also creator of First Mississippi Corporation, and assisted in organization and construction of a giant fertilizer complex in India. For his work on the India project he was recipient of the first award for "exceptional contributions to international development" presented by American cooperative businesses.

A past president of the Mississippi Economic Council, he was one of few men in America selected to serve on both the Federal Reserve Bank Board and the Central Bank for Cooperatives.

Government

In the realm of government, he held state and federal posts that included serving on the U.S. General Advisory Committee on Arms Control and Disarmament, and work as chairman of the Mississippi Council on the United Nations. His was a moderating voice in race relations; he was once chairman of the state's Head Start poverty program. He was a champion of civil rights.

During the Southern Baptist Convention in 1985, the SBC Christian Life Commission presented Cooper its Distinguished Citizen Award, given for leadership in Christian social ethics. Said Foy Valentine, "Owen Cooper stands for all that's best in Baptist life... this third-worldly Christian, prophetic churchman, concerned citizen, lifelong learner, prac-

tical dreamer, Baptist statesman, and doer of the gospel." Cooper, who said he once opposed Christian Life Commission stands against racism, said he accepted the award on behalf of many Southern Baptists who have changed in understanding how to apply the teachings of Jesus Christ in relation to others. He said he had changed from "a person of prejudice into a person who accepts that God is no respecter of persons," from a person of inaction into a person involved in the battle against world hunger, and from a person of concern into a person of action against such things as child abuse, pornography, and drugs.

Influential in the Democratic party, he hosted then President Jimmy Carter at his Yazoo City home in 1977.

Humanitarian organizations he championed are innumerable. He served on the board of directors for Bread for the World. He was for two decades chairman of Mississippi's March of Dimes drive. He showed a special interest in distributing Christian literature through Books for the World. He was involved in organizations and groups fighting alcohol and pornography.

Former Governor William Winter was quoted in the Clarion-Ledger: "He (Cooper) is an authentic Mississippi hero and should be accorded a special place in history. There are certain rare individuals who come along who understand what ought to be done and have the leadership and courage to do what ought to be done."

Jerry Clower said, "He is the most outstanding, high, moral Christian gentleman I have ever known in my life. He is the greatest brain I have ever known in my life. I pray God will raise up another Owen Cooper."

The citation which Mississippi Baptists last year awarded him pointed out, that "scarcely a country exists that he has not touched, for the better, spiritually and physically. . . His vision, his compassion, and his faith are extraordinary. He picks up dreams and makes them realities. He sees no impossibility, because he knows God."

During Sunday's memorial service, James F. Yates, the Yazoo City pastor, said, "This is a tender hour, but in no way an hour of tragedy. He put so much goodness, kindness, service to others, and loyalty to God. . .

"God took him out of the classroom . . . and sent him out into the world as an ambassador."

Cooper is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Thompson Cooper of Yazoo City; four daughters, Nancy Cooper Gilbert of Jackson; Carolyn Cooper of Charlottesville, Va.; Elizabeth T. Cooper of Dallas; and Frances C. Miles of Columbus; one son, Lawrence Owen Cooper Jr.; a brother, Will Cooper of Greenwood; a sister, Ruth Cooper of Jackson; and nine grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, Yazoo City or to Books for the World, Inc., Box 338, Yazoo City 39194.

This story was compiled by Anne W. McWilliams.

Faces And Places

by anne washburn mcwilliams

Baptist Children's Village:

"A missions project anybody can do"

"Some folks say they can't go to Ohio or Honduras. But the Baptist Children's Village is a missions project anybody can do. Right here in Jackson." Thus said Cleve Dawsey, Picayune layman.

Pearl River Association has had yearly mission projects in Ohio and Honduras. Karl McGraw, director of properties at Baptist Children's Village told Dawsey, "I wish we could get some help like that."

"Next year I'm going to Ohio," Dawsey responded, "but then I'm going to see about helping you, too." True to his promise, after Ohio the next year, he rested a week and took three men with him to the Village to paint, do carpenter work, and other repair jobs. They stayed in a Village cottage, ate Village food, and worked for a week.

Cleve Dawsey and his wife, Hazel, (who live at 1210 Palestine Road, Picayune) quickly enlisted fellow church members from Unity, and soon got the whole association interested in joining them in "a mission project anybody can do," including persons in their 70s and 80s.

This summer the Pearl River Association's goal was to send 100 to work in maintenance projects at the Children's Village. (The year before, they had sent 80.) In earlier years, Dawsey and his helpers saw that sometimes money was not available for the Village jobs they needed to do. Then Dawsey told McGraw, "Next year we will raise the money to buy the materials, too." The association followed Dawsey's leading. They set a goal of \$2,000 this year to buy materials. More than 100 volunteered, from 12 churches (Union; Bethel; West Union; Unity; Juniper Grove; Olive; Gumpond; Harmony; Central; New Palestine; Picayune, First; and Parkway). Contributions of \$2,499.52 came from Ford's Creek; Central; Gumpond; New Palestine; Juniper Grove; Poplarville, First; Union; and West Union.

From July 27 through August 9, 1986, (Village vacation time) Pearl River men painted and hammered. The women cooked, painted beds, cleaned out kitchen cabinets, etc. Some did not stay the whole two weeks, but a few did. As one crew left, another would replace them. Some worked only on Saturdays. Cleve and Hazel Dawsey were there the whole time, encouraging, and pitching in with any job they saw to do. Between crews, they changed bed linens in the cottages, getting ready for the next round of workers.

The volunteers' accomplishments were a bit awesome, considering they took place during the summer heat wave: 70 squares of roofing installed on three buildings; exterior of 10 cottages and two residences painted; kitchen cabinets painted in five cottages; maximum-use space painted in six cottages; gym floor refinished; interior painting done in Cooper cot-



Hazel and Cleve Dawsey reminisce at their kitchen table in Picayune about happy days as volunteers on the India Nunnery campus of Baptist Children's Village.

tage; double-doors repaneled in five cottages; shower stalls relined in Mize Cottage; floors in half-bath replaced in Alumni Cottage; 14 new wooden beds for children constructed; and family-room cabinets varnished in five cottages.

For rewards, they had fellowship with each other and fellowship with village staff, and best - the love of Village children they met.

In early morning and late afternoon, they worked, to avoid the worst heat. Between times they'd take a basketball or swimming break.

Seeing the Dawseys' enthusiasm, a paint manufacturer in Picayune, Mike Carmichael, gave 55 gallons of paint one year for this project and 41 gallons another year.

Dawsey said that his special interest in the Village dates back to the time when his son, Bryan, was a boy (he's 23 now). The Dawseys stopped by the Village then for a visit; Bryan started playing with one of the Village boys, and they became good friends. Later this boy, and other boys, spent Christmas or other holidays with the Dawseys. Once Dawsey helped the donor of a yearling deliver it to the Village. Through the Brotherhood of his church, he helped to promote the Mother's Day Offering to the Village.

Cleve Dawsey took disability retirement in 1975 from an aluminum company in Picayune, where he had worked in the maintenance department. He is a diabetic, and an infection in his eyes caused him to go blind. Millions of cortisone tablets he was taking for his eyes caused his stomach and legs to swell so much that he could not get out of bed; it was predicted he would never walk again.

Now he recalls that one day he told his wife, "Blind or not, I'm going to quit taking that medicine!" He did. Eventually his sight returned. And he began exercising by lifting his legs up and down, as he lay in bed. A little at the time, his legs gained strength and he began to walk again. "I'm okay now," he said.

Since retirement, he has spent a lot

of time in volunteer missions tasks. Besides Ohio trips to build churches, he helped to build the Bogue Chitto Indian Church in Mississippi. At Unity Church (James Hickman, pastor), he is a deacon. He is a speaker for the Gideons, and, with his wife, belongs to Campers on Mission. Not only does he work for the Village every summer, but he likes to go there on a Friday night, go to bed, and then get up and work all day Saturday.

Dawsey was born at Logtown, the youngest of four children. "My mother cooked 28 biscuits every morning, and we ate a lot of red beans and rice." His father, who worked at a sawmill, was 15 years older than Cleve's mother. "My dad cut hair Sunday mornings. People would stop in to get a haircut, then say 'Much obliged,' and stay on for Sunday lunch."

He met Hazel Hampton of Picayune on a blind date. (Now she is a teacher's aide for third grade.) They were married July 4 - 38 years ago - at New Palestine Church. Their son, Bryan is a Picayune policeman. Their other son, Cleve Jr., is a minister, pastor of Pearl River Church, married to a music teacher. Their daughter, Cheryl, lives in Woodstock, Ga. She and her husband have two children.

For both Dawseys, the Baptist Children's Village is a cause dear to the heart. "We are trying to get churches to put the Village in the budget," he says.

He adds that lots of clothes and canned goods are given, and that the Village uses its gifts frugally and well. "But imagine 12 kids in each cottage going into the refrigerator all the time. That will soon wear out the refrigerator door!"

"If their two regular maintenance men work eight hours a day, they find it hard just to keep up with the plumbing that needs fixing. That's why they are always needing others to help paint, repair, and redecorate."

Anybody interested in taking on such a Village project may call the office there at 922-2242.

WE MUST MAKE CHRIST KNOWN



This man's home near Armero, Colombia, was destroyed by mudslides following a volcanic eruption. Here, he searches for his homesite to erect a cross in memory of those he lost. Missionaries and Colombian Baptists helped make quake victims know that many in that country are searching also for Christ. (FMB) PHOTO by Joanna Pinneo

NOW is the time. Next year may be too late.

The headlines tell the story.

"20,000 Reported Dead, 25,000 Hurt As Colombian Volcano Erupts"

"Civil Wars Keep African Nations From Surmounting Famine"

SBC Brotherhood Commission OKs agreement with Korea Seminary

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP) — Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission trustees approved a covenant relationship between the commission and the Korea Baptist National Brotherhood Convention during their meeting here, Oct. 25.

They also agreed to underwrite a laity-centered educational program at the Korea Baptist Seminary for three years at a cost of \$20,000 per year.

The agreement came in response to an invitation for assistance from Korea Baptist Seminary President Kin Huh and Sam James, area director for East Asia at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

"Because of our mutual desire to involve all Baptist men and boys in missions through their local church and because of our concern for all lost people throughout the world," the agreement reads, "we covenant to pray for

one another and to help in every way mutually agreed upon for spreading of the work of Baptist Brotherhood throughout the world."

The trustees also elected new officers for 1986-87, reviewed a variety of Brotherhood program projections, and agreed to have their 1988 spring meeting in Richmond, Va., in conjunction with Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union's Centennial Celebration in that city, where WMU was organized.

Les Albro, president of an automobile dealership in Jeffersonville, Ind., was elected chairman. Billy Summerlin, director of Baptist Health Services Foundation in Gadsden, Ala., was elected vice chairman, and Tom Browning, a Social Security administrator from Prairie Village, Kan., is secretary. Commission President James H. Smith was

re-elected treasurer.

Acting on matters referred to the Brotherhood Commission from the 1986 meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, the trustees approved acceptance of youths as space permits in the Brotherhood-sponsored day camp at the SBC meeting each year and agreed the agency will pay expenses of employees attending the SBC annual meeting to do work of the commission.

A farmer once said his mule was awfully backward about going forward. This is also true of many human beings.

In diagnosing the illness of modern society, many are willing to write the prescription but few are willing to take the medicine.

Postal rates to remain at current level for 1987

WASHINGTON (BP) — Congress has approved an overall spending bill that contains sufficient funds to maintain current postal rates for non-profit publications, including Baptist state newspapers, through September 1987.

The continuing resolution contains \$650 million in federal subsidy to provide reduced mailing rates for non-profit mailers. That amount will allow the Postal Service to maintain current rates through the 1987 fiscal year, according to Senate and House reports.

Congress currently approves an annual revenue foregone appropriation to subsidize the difference between what the Postal Service would receive at full unreduced rates and what it actually receives at the reduced rates. However, the Reagan administration is backing a plan that would eliminate such appropriations. The administration has said it will propose legislation to enable the Postal Service to continue reduced rates for most existing subsidized mailers without Congress' revenue foregone appropriations.

Mississippi Baptist activities

- Nov. 16-19 Foreign Missions Study (WMU Emphasis)
- Nov. 17-21 MasterLife Workshop; Harrisburg BC, Tupelo; 6 p.m., 17th-Noon, 21st (CT)
- Nov. 18 Key Leader Seminar; Baptist Building; 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (CM)
- Nov. 19-21 Christian Social Ministries Conference; Lake Tiak O'Khata, Louisville; 1 p.m., 19th-1 p.m., 21st (CoMi)



ABOVE LEFT: Jon Singleton, Southern Baptist missionary, concludes a week of evangelistic services in Vieux Fort, St. Lucia, by asking those who want to be part of a Baptist church here to come forward. When the invitation ended, more than three-fourths of the congregation were standing around the pulpit. Most were not Christian believers—yet. (FMB) PHOTO by Mike Creswell

TOP: Young people, like these in Korea, make up a growing majority of the world's population. And they're often open to the gospel—while they're young. (FMB) PHOTO by Joanna Pinneo

RIGHT: When the starving children of Ethiopia tore at the world's heartstrings, Southern Baptist missionaries and volunteers were there to help feed the hungry—and show them a loving Christ. (FMB) PHOTO by Don Rutledge

Many in our world must hear about Christ today—if they are to hear at all. But it's up to us. We must make Christ known.



**WE MUST
MAKE
CHRIST
KNOWN**

**Week of Prayer for
Foreign Missions**

Nov. 30–Dec. 7, 1986

**Lottie Moon
Christmas Offering Goal:
\$75,000,000**

1,120 decisions registered during *Death: enemy or blessing?* televised crusade in Paraguay

ASUNCION, Paraguay (BP) — Baptists put a Billy Graham-type evangelist in a stadium and on television for a week in Paraguay, and 1,120 people made decisions to accept Christ as their savior, a Southern Baptist missionary reported.

Nilson Fanini, described as the "Billy Graham of Brazil," drew 5,000 to 6,000 people each night to an Asuncion stadium during a week-long crusade in mid-October, said Tom Law, a Southern Baptist missionary in Asuncion. About 7,000 people attended the final Sunday night meeting.

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and the Paraguay Baptist Convention split the \$30,000 bill to have the crusade broadcast at prime time each night, said Bill Damon, the board's associate area director for

Eastern South America.

Even on one rainy night, more than 80 people walked down the steps to talk with counselors and make commitments to Christ. Before the crusade, about 400 Baptists were trained as counselors.

People who met counselors received a package containing tracts, the Gospel of John and the first of a six-part Bible study called "Six People Who Met Jesus." They also received a card with the basic plan of salvation and another card they filled out, giving their name, address, church attendance history, and the decision they had made.

Church members living nearest the new converts have been visiting them at home, giving them New

Testaments, and continuing the Bible study, said Law, who is promoter of evangelism and new work for the Paraguay Baptist Convention for the greater Asuncion area.

A surprise of the crusade, Law said, is that the Baptist convention office is receiving letters from people in towns where there is no Baptist work. The live half-hour and hour-long broadcasts each night reached most of the nation, including remote areas.

The convention office has received 200 requests from people who saw the broadcasts and want more information, along with a New Testament offered on television free of charge, Law said.

The broadcasts spilled over into Argentina, which drew Argentines to (Continued on page 11)

Devotional

By Robert M. Hanvey

There are many people who fear death. Death is feared as an enemy that separates us from the ones whom we love. Death is the enemy that robs us of fellowship with friends and with family. Death is that awesome, frail, and dark difficulty through which all must pass. For many people, the foregoing words describe death and the feelings they have toward death.



Hanvey

It is important to note that death affects all people. Regardless of our position, our status, our economic wealth or the lack of it, or regardless of our personal strengths and weaknesses, death comes. Hebrews 9:27 tells us that every man has an appointment with death.

Death does not have to be an enemy for anyone. Death can be a blessing which ushers us from a life of pain, toil, and persecution, to a life of eternal blessing. Oh death, your sting is gone because of the victory we have in Jesus Christ!

Death can deliver the Christian from the trials of this life to eternal happiness free of trials. From the vantage point of the Christian, death is a deliverer to an eternal presence with Christ. Death will deliver the non-Christian to an eternal separation from God. From the vantage point of the non-Christian, death is an enemy that robs of all eternal bliss.

Have we found the truths of Jesus Christ that make death, not an enemy, but a blessing? There is no need for the Christian to fear death. Jesus has unlocked the way to the spiritual, eternal life that is in him as Lord and Savior.

Robert Hanvey is pastor, First, Hazlehurst.



Intensive care

*Drugs are just as deadly
as a loaded gun.
Don't take chances
with your life*

Alcoholism a disease?

I read with interest your article in the Baptist Record Oct. 9 about compulsive drinkers. I agree with most all of the things that you said, especially the one that says, "but who could not by their own will-power control their alcoholism." The part that I do not agree with is the statement "like other diseases." I think the Bible says, and I shall give scriptures to prove it, alcoholism, drunkenness is a sin:

Isaiah 28:1; Proverbs 23:9-35, vs. 32; Galatians 5:19-21 and I Corinthians 6:9-10.

The term "disease" is used to describe alcoholism because of the disease characteristics and because alcoholism is treatable. A person can be treated effectively in a clinical setting. Alcoholism is the number three cause of death in America, and, therefore, intensive efforts in dealing with alcohol and drug problems rate

priority attention. Whatever the treatment method, it is always a great experience when a chemically dependent person becomes sober or straight and remains that way.

Please note Dr. Geary Alford's forthcoming response in Intensive Care regarding the disease concept. We do not debate what the Bible says. Such references as you quoted simply emphasize the serious plight of these people in our society who are our concern.

Questions addressed to Intensive Care are forwarded to Chaplain Joe Stovall at the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center and are handled in consultation with Dr. Ed Burchak of the staff of the Chemical Dependency Center. Inquiries should be addressed to Intensive Care, Baptist Record, Box 580, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

Southern Baptist executives react to revision of federal tax code

By Kathy Palen

WASHINGTON (BP) — On the day President Ronald Reagan signed in to law the most dramatic revision of the federal tax code in over 40 years, Southern Baptist agency executives reacted to provisions in the legislation that will affect churches, church-related institutions, and their employees.

One of the most important benefits for Baptist ministers is the continuation of tax exempt status for church-related pension boards, said Darold H. Morgan, president of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board. "The original House version of the tax bill would have stripped that exemption and been a major problem to the retirement programs of ministers and other church and agency employees."

The tax law retains the tax-exempt status of church pension and welfare groups, including the Annuity Board. "The Baptist Joint Committee's major interest in tax reform was avoiding the direct taxation of the church pension boards," said James M. Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. "If the House version of the legislation had passed, for the first time in history the federal government would have been directly taxing the churches."

The Annuity Board and Baptist Joint Committee worked jointly in representing Southern Baptist interests during the 11-month process that resulted in the tax revision.

The law, which will take effect Jan. 1, 1987, also will restore ministers'

eligibility to declare mortgage interest and property tax deductions in addition to their tax-exempt housing allowances.

Ministers who have been ineligible to claim those deductions since 1983 may file, under the new law, amended tax returns — Form 1040X — seeking refund of taxes overpaid. The statute of limitations, however, requires amended returns for 1983 be filed no later than April 15, 1987.

The new law, known as the Tax Reform Act of 1986, will end the eligibility of non-itemizing taxpayers to claim deductions for charitable contributions. That benefit will end Dec. 31, 1986.

Morgan pointed to the law's complex pension and employee benefits provisions as also having significant impact on churches, church ministries and their budgets and staffs. Those provisions range from in-

WASHINGTON (BP) — Ministers who have been ineligible to claim mortgage interest and property tax deductions and wish to take advantage of a provision in the new tax revision must file amended income tax returns by upcoming deadlines.

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 revoked Revenue Ruling 83-3, an Internal Revenue Service ruling that froze the ability of ministers receiving tax-ex-

empt housing allowances to take deductions on mortgage interest and real estate taxes if they own their homes.

Since the new law makes that revocation retroactive, ministers who have been unable to claim those deductions since 1983 are eligible to file amended tax returns seeking refund of taxes overpaid.

The statute of limitations, however,

requires amended returns for 1983 to be filed no later than April 15, 1987. Amended returns for other years must be filed within three years after the date the original return was due.

Persons filing amended returns should use Form 1040X and attach an amended Schedule A. Most states also will require the filing of amended state income tax returns.

Foreign missions teleconference will feature missionaries, agency execs

By Karen Benson

Bond, general evangelist in Lome, Togo; and Wade Akins, urban evangelist in Brazil.

Retired missionary William Davidson also will be featured, along with "missionary kid" Becky Ables. At 94, Davidson keeps up with more than 450 missionaries year round through correspondence and daily prayer. Ables is one of several youths featured in this year's Foreign Mission Study for youth.

Joining them in the studio will be Keith Parks, president of the Foreign Mission Board; Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union; and James Smith,

president of the Brotherhood Commission.

Teleconference hosts will be Bill Bolen, news anchor, editorial director and religious news director at WBRC-TV, Channel 6, Birmingham; and Karen Hayter, producer and host of the live, call-in advice show called "COPE" on the ACTS network and a therapist for the Christian Consulting and Counseling firm in Fort Worth, Texas.

The program will be broadcast on Spacenet 1, Channel 21. The signal will not be scrambled.

Karen Benson writes for SBC, WMU.

Year of peace or year of war?

Politicians may refer to 1986 as The Year of Peace, but an Associated Press survey shows 43 countries at war in the world.

The total includes five new ones since the last list three years ago: in-

surrection in Sri Lanka, civil war in Sudan and guerrilla wars in Surinam, Ecuador and Indonesia's Irian Jaya province.

— USA Today

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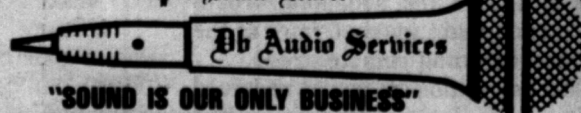
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Long Beach singles will sponsor seminar

The singles group of First Church, Long Beach, is sponsoring a singles seminar Nov. 14-15 with G. Reid Doster as featured speaker. The seminar title is "A Single Experience . . . That Can Change Your Life."

Doster's Friday evening topic will relate to the theme and on Saturday will talk about the need for intimacy in "People Who Need People."

Saturday morning and afternoon sessions will be led by K. Edwin Graham and Sam Fisher.

Doster is an outpatient therapist for HSA Greenbrier Hospital's Family Care Center. Graham is an individual, marriage, and family therapist in private practice in Gulfport. And Fisher is a Methodist minister who deals with divorce recovery.

Registration for the seminar is \$5 and pre-registration is requested. Lunch will be served free by the New Beginnings singles of the church. A nursery will be provided. To register, phone 864-4721, 868-1264, or 864-2584.

The program begins at 7 p.m., Nov. 14.

Pastor's son injured in football game

Evan Edwards, 16, son of John Edwards who is pastor of Union Church, Clarke County, was injured Oct. 24 in a high school football game.

The younger Edwards broke his neck between the fourth and fifth cervical vertebra, according to his father, and was paralyzed from the neck down.

Edwards is in the pediatric ICU unit at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center.

West Jackson Church, Jackson, to celebrate 40th anniversary

West Jackson Church, Jackson, will celebrate its 40th anniversary and note burning on the debt retirement of their activities center, Nov. 23. Jack Nazary, a former pastor, will deliver the message at the 11 a.m. service, and Dewitt Mitchell, who was pastor at the time the activities building was built, will also participate. There will be a covered dish lunch immediately following the morning service. Billy J. Jones is interim pastor.

Irwin is manager, Jackson ACTS

Wilbur Irwin is the new general manager of the ACTS television network's Jackson area affiliate. He replaces Steve Guidry who has been acting manager for 13 months.

Irwin, 60, is former pastor of Forest Hill Church, Jackson. He will promote local church affiliates for the station which is cablecast on Capitol Cablevision, generate publicity, and handle advertising sales.

ACTS 14 is an affiliate of the American Christian Television System. Local offices are at 1300 W. Capitol St.



Library organization elects officers

State Church Media Library Workshop was held at Immanuel Church, Cleveland, Oct. 24-25. The officers are pictured, left to right, standing, Dee McCardle, secretary, Sunshine Church, Pearl; and Margaret Perkins, publicity chairman, First Church, Columbus. Seated, Patricia Robinson, past president, Immanuel Church, Cleveland; and Le Ann Morton, president, First Church, Greenville. Not pictured, Carolyn Hulsey, vice-president, First Church, Kosciusko; and Agatha Sandage, historian, First Church, Brookhaven.

The state workshop for 1987 will be held Nov. 13-14 at Woodland Hills Church, Jackson.

Annuitants will get '87 raise

DALLAS (BP) — Southern Board Annuity Board trustees have voted to increase monthly checks to 13,000 retired Southern Baptist annuitants and to credit earnings to Plan A accounts of members not yet retired.

Annuitants who retired before Jan. 1, 1980, who participated in Plan A, will receive a 16.66 percent increase in their monthly checks on Jan. 1.

While they will receive a 13th check this year, the permanent increase will replace the annual bonus. Persons who retired after Jan. 1, 1980, will be granted a 6.66 percent increase.

Members in Plan A who have not retired also will receive an increase at retirement reflecting the fund's income growth beyond that required for the original defined benefit.

Darold H. Morgan, president of the

Annuity Board, said an estimated \$2 million per year will be credited to 13,000 members. The increases are possible because of high earnings of the retirement fund.

He noted some annuitants' government assistance was reduced the month they got their 13th check because their income exceeded allotments. The increases allow members to enjoy more retirement income all year and permit annuitants in government assistance programs to collect their full benefits.

The board's third quarter income was up \$3.2 million, bringing the net total income for 1986 to \$36.8 million.

Total assets increased 18.8 percent last year to \$1.8 billion. Assets in the Insurance Fund increased 21 percent to \$101.6 million.

Earl Verser, former Ouachita trustee, murdered at home

EUDORA, Ark. (BP) — Earl Verser, 62, former chairman of trustees for Ouachita Baptist University, was found dead at his home here Oct. 31, an apparent murder victim.

Preliminary indications were that Verser died of several blows to the head suffered during a burglary of his home, Eudora Police Chief Lawrence Webster said.

A suspect, Glen Allen, 21, of Eudora was in custody without bond in the

Lake Village County Jail on charges of capital murder and theft of property, according to the Chicot County sheriff's office.

Allen was arrested Oct. 31 in Fort Worth, Texas, after becoming involved in a barroom fight, Webster said. Fort Worth police discovered the vehicle he was driving was registered in Verser's name, and subsequent investigations connected him to the Arkansas crimes.

They used their heads

VIENNA, Austria — England-speaking citizens from more than 50 nations have worshipped with Southern Baptist missionaries Luther and Mary Frances Morphis on one or more Sundays in Vienna, a city of 1.6 million. The couple moved here in 1982 to begin the English-language Vienna Baptist Church.

Typical of most new churches, however, there were meager beginnings — a Nigerian couple and a retired American couple. How did the effort grow? The three couples visited shopping centers or rode public transportation, listening for people speaking English and striking up a conversation that frequently gave them a chance to mention the new congregation.

Senior Adult Corner

A group of senior adults from North Winona Church, Winona took a trip recently to Eureka Springs, Ark., where they attended the Great Passion Play and a tour of the Holy Land. While there, they attended the Country Revue and sightseeing.

Senior Adults who went were Winnie Pullen, Lola Braswell, Callie Westoby, Grace Martin, Ervie Lee Campbell, Dutch Lott, Grace S. Windoll, Pauline Taylor, Bessie Self, Doris Cooper, Pearl Mitchell, Alvin Box, H. B. Sandidge, Joan and Roscoe Cox,

Louise and Morris Bennett, and Katie and Jake Sykes. They were accompanied by Sandy Land, minister of music and youth, Andren Collins, Doris Collins, and Stelloise and John Basinger.

The name of the fellowship group is called S.A.F. (Senior Adult Fellowship) This group has activity time the first Tuesday of each month where they have a meal and fellowship together. They are also working on a cookbook.

1,120 decisions registered

(Continued from page 9)

the stadium, Law said.

About 110 pastors, seminary students and lay people from Brazil rode 1,500 miles in buses to do house-to-house visitation as part of the crusade.

One of the bus drivers made a profession of faith during the crusade.

The convention rented 49 city-buses that were rerouted to churches and mission points 35 miles away and then to the stadium. To board a bus, a church member had to have an accompanying non-member.

In several instances, people made

professions of faith in Christ in the stadium and returned the following night with family members who also made professions.

So far, more than 1,000 Bibles have been given out as part of the crusade. A 13-week Bible study is planned for 75 homes, starting in March 1987, Law said.

About 6,000 Baptists live in Paraguay, which has a population of 3.5 million. About 98 percent of the population has ties with the Roman Catholic church, with only 20 percent saying they are faithful Catholics, Law said.

Kentucky-style evangelism copied successfully in Kenya

NYERI, Kenya — A partnership between Baptists in Kentucky and Kenya is changing lives even after the Americans return home.

Patrick, a farmer in the Nyeri area of Kenya, participated as a layman with two different teams of Kentuckians who came to his country to conduct evangelistic crusades. He was part of teams which went house-to-house visiting, handing out tracts and telling people what Jesus meant to them personally. Evenings included showing a movie and preaching.

After the crusades were over Patrick heard about a village called Nditu Downs where there were only six baptized believers. A seminary student, Simon Nduati, was working there and Geoffrey Karuiki, a Baptist pastor, also was interested in Nditu Downs.

So the three men formed a team and decided, "to do it like the Kentuckians do it — complete with visitation, tracts, movies and sermons. In a short time 47 villagers had made professions of faith."

The Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Baptist Convention of Kenya

began a working partnership in January 1985. Through September 1986, 225 volunteers from Kentucky had worked in Kenya, reporting more than 14,000 professions of faith.

The partnership continues through 1987 and Kentucky planners are anticipating requests for 600 to 700 volunteers to pay their own expenses to work alongside Kenyan Baptists and Southern Baptist missionaries in the east African country.

The kindness we mean to show tomorrow cures no heartache today.

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Decisions . . .

(Continued from page 2)

leave the baby (believer) to shift for himself. Our society would not tolerate an infant mortality rate of 40 percent yet we accept 40 to 50 percent of spiritual dropouts as being the norm.

This is no plea to lessen our efforts of evangelistic outreach, but it is a plea to see evangelism as the doorway to discipleship.

Guy Henderson is director of evangelism for Mississippi Baptists.

Calhoun Baptists work in California in building and backyard Bible clubs

Thirty-one from Calhoun Association, representing 11 of the 50 Baptist churches in the association, went on a mission trip to California. They helped build a new sanctuary for First Baptist Church, Springville. In addition to working on the building, they also led three Backyard Bible Clubs where 68 people enrolled. The Backyard Bible Clubs reached new children every day. One in the clubs made a profession of faith; several families have started to church as a result of the clubs. "Also one of the team members was saved during the week," states Wayne Gullett, Calhoun director of missions.

"The mission project was a tremendous success. The group has many wonderful experiences while in California and also heard of great things continuing to happen in First Baptist, Springville. The Sunday after the team left two men were saved and joined the church."

Those participating in the mission



trip were Wayne Gullett (director of missions), Tillie Gullett, Martha Kate Phillips, and Michael Joyner, all of First Church, Calhoun City; Lonnie Waller and Angela Waller of Oldtown Church; David, Sue, and Bryan Mitchell of Spring Hill Church; Dale Easley, Doug Easley, Ray Sutherland, Charles Hollis, and Lucy Hollis of Vardaman Church; Russell Simmons, Richard Simmons, and Joe Grady

Denton of Sabougla Church; Malcolm Pinion, Betty Pinion, Oma Jean Walls, and Tonya Walls of Ellard Church; Paula Mayhan and Tim Ruth from Westside Church; Wayne Doler, Sonny Pryor, and Jon Mark Boland from Bethany Church; Aaron Lewis and Ruby Lewis from Pleasant Hill Church; James and Maxine Howell of Big Creek Church; and Earl Mayhan from Calhoun City, Second Church.

Van Winkle member joins Mission Service Corps

Mrs. Maxine Chisolm, member of Van Winkle Church, Jackson, recently joined the Mission Service Corps of the Home Mission Board, SBC. She is serving as a volunteer, working in Susquehanna Valley Baptist Church, Shamokin Dam, Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Chisolm, mother of five, has a son, a Baptist minister ordained by Van Winkle Church, who is employed by the Home Mission Board.

Mrs. Chisolm said, "I thought that

I was too old to be involved in mission work outside of the state, but listening to others who had done volunteer work with the Mission Service Corps, I decided to try, and I am so happy with my work here." She will work in the church office, visit, and serve in other ways.

Mrs. Chisolm became a Christian in 1943 in Pine Grove Baptist Church, Simpson County, when the late Dan Moulder was preaching there in a revival. For many years she has lived in Jackson and attended Van Winkle Church. Her current address is P. O. Box 485, Shamokin Dam, PA 17876.

Tocowa, (Panola) will celebrate 90th anniversary

Tocowa Church, Panola Association, will celebrate its 90th anniversary, Nov. 16. The event will begin with breakfast at 8 a.m.; 10 a.m., Mrs. Norma Riser will give a history; and at 11 a.m., Charles Tyler will be preaching at the worship service.

Dinner will be served at noon by the Brotherhood. Gary Crowell will preach at 1:30 p.m., and Jimmy Anthony, pastor, will officiate at a dedication and noteburning service for work done on the church building.

Throughout the afternoon music will be provided by the King's Four, the Rejoicers, the Canaan Landers, and Faith.

Names in the News

Mrs. Minnie Ingram retired after 42 years as church clerk of Calvary Church, Greenwood, Oct. 1. The pastor of Calvary at the time she began as clerk was R. A. Tullis. Other pastors were Dan Morton, Wilburn Mathews, Jim Terpo, Rayford Duck, Jimmy Wood, and presently Wayne Berry.



Mrs. Ingram

Mrs. Minnie, as she is called, says she has seen Calvary grow from a small church to the large, friendly congregation it is today.

One of the most meaningful events of Mrs. Minnie's service was the night she was honored with a love offering and a Bible presented to her by Jimmy Wood on behalf of Calvary Church for her 40th year of service. She has also served as Sunday School teacher, Sunday School secretary, WMU presi-

dent and many other areas of service. Mrs. Minnie and her late husband, C. B. Ingram, raised two daughters and one son in Calvary Church.

Harold G. Sanders, retired executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, died Oct. 30 at his home in Louisville, Ky., following an extended illness.

Pat Thompson was licensed by Twin Lakes Church (Hinds-Madison), on Sept. 14. He and his wife, Patti, have two children. Thompson is a student at Millsaps College. He is available for supply, and can be contacted at 840 Academy Park Drive, Canton, MS 39046, or phone 859-8716.

E. C. Farr served with the Home Mission Board in Crescent Valley, Nevada for three years. He is now back home at Rt. 1, Box 38, Scooba, MS.

NEW ORLEANS — Michael Ray Brister, from Pearl, received the master of religious education degree May 17 at New Orleans Seminary. Brister was a member of the 68th graduating class at the seminary. He is married to the former Deborah Zane Luke of Pearl, and is the son of Mrs. Evelyn Brister of Pearl. His home church is McLaurin Heights, Pearl. He holds the bachelor of science degree from the University of Mississippi, and the master of arts degree from the University of Mississippi.

TV characters are "cussing" more

Characters on the three major television networks are cussing a lot more, and depicting violence a lot less, and sex a bit more, according to the monitoring of the Christian Leaders for Responsible Television group headed by Don Wildmon of Tupelo.

His monitoring of the first four weeks of fall programming in ABC, NBC, and CBS show an increase over similar period in the 1985 season of six percent for sex, a decrease of 24 percent for violence, and an increase of 47 percent for profanity.

Staff Changes

Tommy Tackett has resigned as pastor of Immanuel Church, Pontotoc Association and accepted the pastorate of Hebron Church, Grenada Association, beginning Nov. 16. He is married to the former Mary Lee Westmoreland of Pontotoc and they have two sons, Scott 16, and Nathan, 10. A graduate of Itawamba Junior College and Blue Mountain College, he plans to attend New Orleans Seminary Extension, Jackson, in January.

Tyrone Nail has resigned the pastorate of Enon Church, Clay Association.

Odus Jackson became pastor of Leesburg Church in Rankin County, on Nov. 9. For the past 5 years, he has been pastor of Zion Hill Church, Amite County, and in vocational evangelism. Jackson is a native of Gloster. His education included William Carey College, New Orleans Seminary, and Luther Rice Seminary. His ordination to the ministry was by the Galilee Church, Gloster, in 1959.

Joe Abels resigned the pastorate of Trinity Church, Biloxi, effective Oct. 31. He accepted a call to First Church, Patterson, La.

Revival Dates

Georgetown, (Copiah): Nov. 16-21; Cliff Estes, Shreveport, La., evangelist; Greg Long, Wesson, music; services, 12 noon, 7 p.m.; Joe Barber, pastor.

Belen (Quitman): 6 p.m., Sunday night; 7 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; Nov. 16-21; Tommy Vinson, pastor, Colonial Hills,

Southaven, evangelist; John Bailey, minister of music, First, West Memphis, Ark., music; Todd Bowen, pastor.

Steele, Hwy. 21, Steele: Nov. 16-21; Sunday, 10 a.m., 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Randall Creel, pastor of Sulphur Springs Church, Sebastopol, evangelist; Tom Fox, pastor.

Southside Church, Gautier, recognizes mission volunteers

Southside Church, Gautier, had a Mission Volunteer Recognition Sunday in October, for those involved in volunteer mission work in the past twelve months.

Dan and Barb Casper have recently been appointed as volunteer workers in the Mission Service Corps. Their assignment is Project Hope in Pascagoula. They are resident managers of this half-way type ministry for ex-offenders.

Other recognized included Harry Gaston, who was with Honduras Medical Missions last October. Mickey Worzella and Jerry Worzella, the Southside pastor, work with Alabama Carpenters for Christ. Also they help build their third church in Oklahoma this past summer. Jon Hollon was with Honduras Medical Missions this past April.

Those who have responded to a mission call for this year are Barb Worzella, Della Chestnut, Chellie Worzella, Ethel Green, Honor Dunn,

Dan Casper, Jon Hollon, Mickey Worzella, Jerry Worzella, Ellis Lindley, Billy Pitman, Harry Gaston, Jean Payton, and Monica Gaston.

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EDT	CDT	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	MDT	PDT
6:00	5:00	Country Crossroads	Plant Groom	Life Today	Lifestyle	Life Today	Lifestyle	Our World	4:00	3:00
6:30	5:30		Super Handyman	At Home With Bible	Word of Life	Human Dimension	Joy of Music	Prime Timers	4:30	3:30
7:00	6:00	Changed Lives		COPE				La Vida Hoy	5:00	4:00
7:30	6:30	One In The Spirit							5:30	4:30
8:00	7:00	Catch the Spirit	Westbrook Hospital	Westbrook Hospital	Public Defender	Westbrook Hospital	26 Men	Profiles	6:00	5:00
8:30	7:30	This Is The Life		Sunshine Factory				Imagine That	6:30	5:30
9:00	8:00	Christopher Closeup		Gigglesort Hotel				Moody Science	7:00	6:00
9:30	8:30	Bobby Jones Show		Cisco Kid				Sun. School Lesson	7:30	6:30
10:00	9:00	In Touch		Encore Theatre				Bill Cosby Show	8:00	7:00
10:30	9:30							Country Crossroads	8:30	7:30
11:00	10:00	Joy of Music							9:00	8:00
11:30	10:30	Home With The Bible	Life Today	Life Today	Lifestyle	Life Today	Lifestyle	In Concert	9:30	8:30
Noon	11:00	Human Dimension							10:00	9:00
12:30	11:30	Profiles	Prime Timers	At Home With Bible	Word of Life	Human Dimension	Joy of Music	Family Foundations	10:30	9:30
1:00	Noon	Baptist Hour		Sunshine Factory				David Wade	11:00	10:00
1:30	12:30			Gigglesort Hotel				Plant Groom	11:30	10:30
2:00	1:00	Prime Timers		Cisco Kid				Super Handyman	Noon	11:00
2:30	1:30	The Sunday Selection		Psychiatry and You				Sportsight	12:30	11:30
3:00	2:00			COPE				Jimmy Houston	1:00	Noon
3:30	2:30			Encore Theatre				Our World	1:30	12:30
4:00	3:00	In Touch						Imagine That	2:00	1:00
5:00	3:30							Moody Science	2:30	1:30
5:00	4:00	Joy of Music						Sun. School Lesson	3:00	2:00
5:30	4:30	Home With The Bible		Sunshine Factory				David Wade	3:30	2:30
6:00	5:00	Human Dimension		Gigglesort Hotel				Plant Groom	4:00	3:00
6:30	5:30	Profiles		Cisco Kid				Super Handyman	4:30	3:30
7:00	6:00	This Is The Life	Life Today	Lifestyle	Life Today	Lifestyle	Life Today	Bill Cosby Show	5:00	4:00
7:30	6:30	Christopher Closeup						Country Crossroads	5:00	4:00
8:00	7:00	Bobby Jones Show	Home With The Bible	Word of Life	Human Dimension	Joy of Music	Prime Timers		6:00	5:00
8:30	7:30	Changed Lives	David Wade	Plant Groom	Super Handyman	Eat Healthy	Success	In Concert	6:30	5:30
9:00	8:00	One In The Spirit	Country Crossroads	Great Churches	In Concert	Invitation to Life	Country Crossroads		7:00	6:00
9:30	8:30	Catch the Spirit						Family Foundations	7:30	6:30
10:00	9:00	The Sunday Selection		COPE				La Vida Hoy	8:00	7:00
10:30	9:30								8:30	7:30
11:00	10:00		Westbrook Hospital	Public Defender	Westbrook Hospital	Twenty Six Men	Westbrook Hospital	Profiles	9:00	8:00
11:30	10:30	Baptist Hour	Life Today	Lifestyle	Life Today	Lifestyle	Life Today	This Is The Life	9:30	8:30
Midnight	11:00							Christopher Closeup	10:00	9:00
12:30	11:30	Prime Timers	Home With The Bible	Word of Life	Human Dimension	Joy of Music	Prime Timers	Bobby Jones Show	10:30	9:30
1:00	Midnight	Changed Lives	David Wade	Plant Groom	Super Handyman	Eat Healthy	Success	In Concert	11:00	10:00
1:30	12:30	One In The Spirit	Country Crossroads	Great Churches	In Concert	Invitation to Life	Country Crossroads		11:30	10:30
2:00	1:00	Catch the Spirit						Family Foundations	Midnight	11:00
2:30	1:30	This Is The Life		COPE				Sportsight	12:30	11:30
3:00	2:00	Christopher Closeup						Jimmy Houston	1:00	Midnight
3:30	2:30	Bobby Jones Show	Westbrook Hospital	Public Defender	Westbrook Hospital	Twenty Six Men	Westbrook Hospital	Our World	1:30	12:30
4:00	3:00	Baptist Hour		Encore Theatre				La Vida Hoy	2:00	1:00
4:30	3:30								2:30	1:30
5:00	4:00	Prime Timers						Profiles	3:00	2:00
5:30	4:30	David Wade	Life Today	Lifestyle	Life Today	Lifestyle	Life Today	Bill Cosby Show	3:30	2:30

Alta Woods Lyrique Bells will ring at White House

The Lyrique Bells, a women's handbell choir from Alta Woods Church, Jackson, have been invited to perform at the White House on Saturday, Dec. 13. The group will ring for the Military/Secret Service Staff Christmas Open House in the East Wing Entrance to the White House 2-5 p.m.

In addition, the group plans to perform at the Capitol Building. Arrangements for the trip are being made through Senator Thad Cochran's office in Washington.

Prior to the Washington trip the Lyrique Bells, along with three other bell choirs and the children's choirs from Alta Woods Baptist Church, will provide music for the Christmas Open House at the Governor's Mansion Dec. 5 from 5-7 p.m.

The 13-member Lyrique Bells were begun seven years ago when a set of memorial handbells was purchased for the church. The Lyrique Bells have performed more than 100 concerts in seven states. Five of the original group members remain, and most of the ringers have several years of experience with handbells.

Members of the Lyrique Bells are Cindy Barrett, Nora Michael, Clara

Walker, Judy Hicks, Eloise Thomas, Beverly Weeks, Lynn Hill, Ruthie Courtney, Donna Slater, Jeanette Davis, Ginger Weimer, Terry Hodges, and Teresa Aikens. Ron Jenkins is minister of music at Alta Woods. He and Terry Hodges co-direct the Lyrique Bells.

Other places they will perform this fall are:

November 18: Alta Woods Church Triple L Luncheon, 12:30 p.m.

November 26: Alta Woods Community Thanksgiving Service, 7:30 p.m., Alta Woods Presbyterian Church, (Lyrique Bells and Chancel Bells)

December 2: Lion's Club, noon, Holiday Inn Southwest.

December 5: Carter's Nursing Home, 10 a.m.

December 5: Governor's Mansion (Open House), 5:00-5:45 p.m.; (after 5:45, program will feature the Chancel Bells, Senior High Handbells, New Vibrations Handbells (Jr. High), and the children's choirs from Alta Woods Church.

December 6: McRae's Metrocenter, 3 p.m.

December 21: Alta Woods Church Singing Christmas Tree, 7 p.m.

Martin apologizes to Moore, says Roberts should, too

By Toby Druin

DALLAS (BP) — A Baylor University trustee has apologized for being the source of information used to criticize Winfred Moore and said the man who levied the criticism, Lee Roberts of Atlanta, also owes Moore an apology.

Moore, pastor of First Baptist Church of Amarillo, Texas, and who also is a Baylor trustee, requested the apology from Paul Martin of Houston. Last spring Martin told Roberts that in a January 1985 Baylor board meeting Moore had voted to table a motion by Martin instructing the Baylor administration not to allow the Baylor Film Society to show movies on campus containing profanity, sexually explicit scenes, and taking God's name in vain. The motion to table Martin's motion was made by W. Dewey Presley of Dallas and stated the trustees had confidence in the administration and the matter was one the administration could handle. The tabling motion passed.

President Herbert H. Reynolds suspended the film society on April 30, 1985.

In a letter exchange last spring, more than a year after the tabling motion, Roberts wrote of the January 1985 trustee action to Paul Powell, pastor of Green Acres Baptist Church in Tyler, Texas, who also is a Baylor trustee and current president of the Texas Baptist convention.

Both Roberts and Powell were involved in the SBC presidential election process last spring, Roberts endorsing Adrian Rogers and Powell endorsing Moore.

Roberts, chairman of the 1986 SBC Committee on Boards, was criticized for a speech in April in Nashville, Tenn., when, while urging Rogers' election, said he didn't know if Moore "believes in truth." Powell was criticized for sending out a letter of endorsement for Moore on his Texas presidential stationery.

Moore's vote, Roberts wrote to Powell, was "to allow the continued showing of pornography, depicting homosexuality, sadism, nudity, explicit sex, and the use of the Lord's name in vain on the campus of Baylor University. Think about that fact, that this mind-set is today but a heartbeat away from the presidency of the SBC."

Roberts' information about Moore's vote on the tabling motion was provided by Paul Martin, he said, saying Martin told him he could quote him.

In a Baylor trustee meeting in July, Moore reiterated Roberts' statement about his January 1985 vote in the meeting of the Baylor trustees and

stated Roberts' contention that his vote to continue showing profanity, nudity, and taking God's name in vain, was an "untruth," that his vote simply was to table the motion, voicing confidence in the administration to handle it.

Martin told the trustees he had, indeed, been telephoned by Roberts, whom he did not know and told him of Moore's vote to table. All Roberts asked, Martin said, was if Moore's vote were to table. He did not ask if it were a vote to continue showing pornography. Roberts did not say how he had learned of the January 1985 action, Martin said, nor did he indicate how he intended to use the information.

Martin apologized to Moore, Reynolds, Presley, and Powell and said he probably should just have told Roberts he didn't want to talk to him.

At the request of Moore, Martin subsequently agreed in the trustee meeting in July to sign a statement of apology to Moore if Moore would have one drafted by Moore's attorney, Maston Courtney of Amarillo, and sent to Martin on July 29.

Moore said Martin later told him he would have to revise it somewhat before signing it. Moore said he told Martin to prepare it any way he wished, but when he had not received it by Aug. 27, he called Martin about it.

The Houston attorney, Moore said, told him he could not sign it because he was convinced Moore was going to use it in a lawsuit.

Moore told the Baptist Standard, newjournal of the Texas Baptist convention, he had never said he is or is not planning a lawsuit.

Martin's refusal to sign a statement prompted Moore on Oct. 7 to send a transcript of the tape recordings of the July Baylor trustee meeting, including Martin's apology, along with the statement of apology prepared for Martin by Courtney, to the Baylor trustees and administration and others, including the Standard.

Moore said in a telephone interview with the Standard that he had sent the material because "I think our people need to know that some of the things that have been said about people and institutions are not true, and if it goes unchallenged you can keep that kind of thing going. I don't think that's right."

Martin told the Standard he had refused to sign the statement prepared by Courtney "because it does not correctly state the facts."

A correct statement, he said, would have included the transcript of what

he said at the Baylor trustee meeting as to why he made his motion to direct the administration. He made the motion, he said, because he had seen no evidence the administration was moving to stop the movies.

Martin said he told Moore he would publicly apologize to him "because I really didn't want him hurt in this thing. I think Winfred Moore is a really fine, wonderful Christian who loves the Lord certainly every bit as much as you or I do."

"Obviously, when he voted to table that motion he wasn't considering he was going to allow them to continue to show pornography at Baylor as I thought they were."

Moore, Martin said, "probably thought the administration was really going to stop them. It's just unfortunate because he was in this national (Southern Baptist) campaign, the word got out that he was one of the ones who voted to table my motion and it was misconstrued."

Martin criticized Powell for further distributing Roberts' remarks about Moore in his letter of endorsement last spring.

Martin said he briefly had talked with Roberts since the July Baylor board meeting and told him of Moore's displeasure.

He said he told Roberts "he ought to write Winfred Moore an apology because I thought he was out of order to have accused Winfred that way."

Roberts told the Standard that he had received the letter and transcript from Moore and had written a "very private, privileged letter" in reply.

The next step, he said, will depend on Moore's responding in an "honorable" way. The issue is how Moore voted and why rather than who said what to whom, he said.

He said he would not argue the matter in the press and did not send copies of his letter to Baylor trustees or the press "as Dr. Moore did."

He would not say for the record why he had not contacted Moore instead of Martin, at the outset as to how Moore voted in the January 1985 meeting.

Toby Druin writes for the Baptist Standard.

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Albania is on European's heart

GENEVA — Glen Garfield Williams, a former Swiss Baptist pastor who has been the Conference of European Churches' general secretary the past 18 years, retired in September with but one disappointment: that no contacts have been established in Albania.

Even so, Williams sees "one or two signs of a greater relaxing of the situation (which) give me hope that it might be possible to build some sort of Christian dialogue with Albania." Otherwise across Europe, Williams said, "I see much more mutual confidence between churches of different denominations than when I began."

Just for the Record



Friendship Church, Grenada, became debt free Oct. 26 for the first time in 30 years. The church paid off the \$87,000 balance in less than three years. During this same period the church gave \$38,000 to remodel the sanctuary without borrowing a penny. Pictured, left to right, are Gladys Tune, treasurer; Robert Gray, trustee; Ronnie Smith, deacon chairman; Donny Hodges, trustee; and Ronnie Mitchell, pastor.



Pineview Church, Hattiesburg, recently conducted its annual GA — Acteen recognition service. Pictured, front row left to right, are Mrs. Judy Mahon, leader; Lisa Trotter, Shonda Williamson, Karen Ryals, Tonya Williamson, and Sabrina Morgan.

Second row, Kim Bounds, Kim Ryals, Theresa Ainsworth, Karen Collins, Mrs. Paula Headley, and Amy White.

Third row, Vonda Ryals, leader; Mickey Mahon, Gina Patton, Judy Simmons, Denise Ainsworth, Mrs. Georgia Ryals, leader; Holly Graham, and Mrs. Michelle Robinson, leader.

Back row, Paul Blanchard, pastor, and Larry Deemy, minister of youth.



Mission Friends of First Church, Amory, visited Mrs. Anna Lawson, prior to being awarded certificates at the prayer meeting service, Sept. 24. Mrs. Lawson has been a WMU member and a choir member of First Church, Amory for 61 years. She receives **Royal Service** cassette tapes for the visually impaired. The tapes are provided free in Mississippi. Mrs. Susan B. Lewis is director of Mission Friends. Jerry Massey is pastor.



Five of the "College and Career" group of Anchor Church, Water Valley, were summer missionaries. They are, pictured, left to right, front row, Mark Brown, Central Hills Retreat; Anna Green, Camp Garaywa; and Troy Hurdle, serving as summer youth director at Grove Hill Church, Grove Hill, Ala. Back row, Ron Beckham, Camp Soaring Hawk, Missouri; Gerald Shook, pastor; and Scott Kellum, summer youth director at Temple of Faith Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich.

Anchor Church recently had Sgt. Steve Bramlett of the Oxford Police Department to present a film on drug users, and the effect of drugs on people.

There have been five people at Anchor Church who have surrendered their lives to the ministry.

Anchor Church is also working with the BSU at University of Mississippi. Recently they have taken the ministry of Anchor Church's children's church.



The GAs of Evansville Church, Coldwater, participated in a recognition service, Sept. 28. Their theme was "My Promise To God."

Receiving Mission Adventure 1 badges, left to right, are Misty Moore, Genia Phillips, Lacey Lance, and Jamie Still. Amy Dye and Amy Price received Mission Adventure 3 badges. These badges were presented by Brenda Riley and Debby Kelly, leader and assistant leader.

Jerry Price, pastor, gave a message of challenge to each of these girls.



Mrs. Charlene Rone (pictured) and her three daughters, Ginger, Jamie, and Kelli were recently recognized for perfect attendance in Sunday School this past year at Ethel Church, Ethel. Ginger received a six year pin, Charlene, Jamie, and Kelli received one year pins. Dwight Brown is pastor.

Trinity Church, 2610 Napoleon Ave., Pearl, will have Lay Renewal, Nov. 21-23, beginning at 7 p.m. with a fellowship supper. Dennis Laravia, Ferriday, La., will be guest speaker. Lay leaders from Louisiana, Mississippi, and Arkansas will be featured. David Manasco is pastor.

McAdams Church (Attala) has recently been the recipient of a piano donated to the church by Mrs. Cecil Barber and her sons in memory of their husband and father, the late C. S. Barber, a former deacon and song leader in the church. Douglas Hogg is pastor.

Homecomings

Trinity, Pearl: harvest day; Nov. 16; services, 11 a.m.; Grady Crowell, director of missions, Clarke County, guest speaker; dinner, singing and fellowship following service; David Manasco, pastor.

Liberty (Newton): Nov. 23; J. D. Allen, Graceville, Fla., former pastor, 1940-1942, speaker during morning worship service; afternoon, Marion Felton, Newton, will present concert of sacred music; lunch served at church; J. B. Costilow, pastor.

Bogue Chitto, Bogue Chitto: Nov. 16; services, 10 a.m. with Sunday School and worship service, 11 a.m.; lunch served on the grounds, 12 noon; afternoon service, will consist of placing a marker for a time-capsule that was buried last November and music will be presented; Darnell Archie, pastor.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON COMMENTARIES

Promise of return: favor of the Lord will come again

By Robert E. Self
Zechariah 8:1-17

God's people had been through some very difficult times when Zechariah delivered the message of our text. The nation had been divided



Self

and had fallen into pagan practices. After years of pleading with Israel and Judah to repent, God allowed them to be destroyed. Their sin against God had led to the destruction of Jerusalem and its temple. Almost everything that they had cherished in their history was swept away in a short time. Many were deported from the land.

During those long years of exile, Ezekiel and Daniel preached God's word. Cyrus captured Babylonia and allowed the Jews to return to Judah in the late sixth century B.C. God began to speak through Zechariah our message of hope for today.

I. God's purpose (8:3-8)

God's purpose in returning to Jerusalem was a matter of honor. This destroyed city with its

UNIFORM

partly erected temple was a symbol of shame to him. Jerusalem would now be known as a city of truth and the mountain upon which the temple was built would become a holy mountain.

God's purpose further related to his desire to bless the people. We see that plan in verses 4 and 5 where God tells of old men and women in the streets of Jerusalem along with boys and girls. This picture of peaceful prosperity sits in contrast to a world torn apart by war. Peace would ultimately come and life would be enjoyed because God had taken them on as his people, to bless them.

God's purpose can also be seen in his desire to continue to have a covenant relationship with the people. While he had punished them for their rebellion, he had not totally rejected them. Verse 8 trumpets the covenant idea when God tells them that he will dwell with them in the place of worship. It must have seemed too good

to be true when he declared to them that they would be his people and he would be their God! Such is God's purpose, even today.

II. God's promise (8:9-13)

In order to promise them better days, God reminded them of hard times in the recent past. There were times when food was scarce and jobs non-existent. Peace had escaped them. Hardship was present at every hand.

The beautiful promise begins in verse 11 when God tells them that he was not going to continue to punish them. The favor of the Lord would produce crops that would take care of the people. Rain would fall and the ground would respond. That small group that had returned were going to have all their needs met. God would see to it.

Verse 13 chronicles the great change. The people who at one time were known as a curse would come to be known as a blessing. What a change!

III. God's program (8:14-17)

It is the nature of covenant relationships that conditions must be met. If these people were to enjoy the blessings spoken through the pro-

phet, they must live in a certain way. God simply expected them to live in righteousness. The text deals with neighbors and swearing to false oaths. It may be expanded in the spirit of the letter to declare that for them to be blessed, they must be obedient to the words of God, to live according to all that He had taught them.

Conclusion:

The return of God to his people in our text must have been an event of great joy. It mirrors the joy that Jesus must have when we who have gone astray turn to him today.

I remember hearing my grandparents speak of one of their sons who left home rather than accept discipline for some wrong act. It now seems that more than forty years passed without any word. One day while my grandfather sat on the porch, a car pulled up and his son got out and walked up to the porch. When my grandfather learned that it was his son, tears of joy began to flow.

The return of the Lord always involved the return of his people... and it always brings joy!

Robert Self is pastor, First, Brookhaven.

Jesus declares his unique authority, as God's Son

By Marjean Patterson
John 5:19-47

Following the healing of the man who had been crippled for 38 years, the Jewish leaders tried to kill Jesus. They asked many questions concerning the authority of Jesus to heal people.

I. Jesus' works identical to the Father's (5:20)

Jesus boldly stated that he did nothing of himself; he did only that which he saw his Father doing. The Son was acting within the will and work of the Father. And

even greater things would be done by Jesus. What God would ultimately do in the Son would surely cause them to wonder.

II. Life and judgment committed to the Son (5:21-29)

As the Father could resurrect the dead and give life to them, so Jesus indicated that he also could bring the dead to life and could bestow life. The exciting news which broke in on this first-century world is that both spiritual and



Patterson

BIBLE BOOK

physical life could come through Jesus Christ.

Though the Jews were actively criticizing Jesus, he told them that the Father does not directly judge any man. Rather, judgment would be done through the Son. And the basis of that judgment would be determined by the relationship of that person to the Son, Jesus Christ.

The Jews held the name of God in such high esteem that they would not even pronounce it, while criticizing — and ultimately killing — God's Son.

In the person and presence of Jesus, a new era had dawned in history. Those who hear his voice — now — shall live. "For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself." In addition, the Father has given to the Son the authority to execute judgment upon all unbelievers.

How amazed the listeners must have been when Jesus went on to tell them that the time was coming when he would call and the dead "would hear his voice."

Graves will be opened and Jesus will be the judge. Jesus points out to the Jewish leaders that, in contrast to their unjust judgment, his judgment will be just, because it will be in perfect harmony with the will of the Father.

Where did Jesus get his authority? By doing the will of the one who sent him into the world.

III. The Father's witness to the Son (5:36-38)

The Jewish leaders had heard the witness of John the Baptist. They had also seen the witness of Jesus' works — the signs or miracles — yet they continued to reject him. The works of Jesus were done through the power of his Father. Everything Jesus had done had been helpful and good. They had seen that the man by the pool at Bethesda was healed by Jesus; yet they still did not believe.

By his wondrous works, the people should have recognized that the Father had sent Jesus.

These miracles could only be done by authority and power granted by God.

IV. The Jews' rejection of Jesus (5:39-40, 46-47)

The scriptures themselves stood as a witness to the authority and authenticity of Jesus. The very scriptures which the Jewish leaders studied daily pointed to the Messiah. Though the students of the scripture would not believe in him, the material over which they constantly pored spoke powerfully to his coming into their midst.

The Jews' hope of salvation centered in Moses. The Mosaic writings are cited as speaking of Christ. While others found him in the Mosaic books, the Jewish leaders did not. So Jesus accused them of not even believing Moses — otherwise, they would have believed in him.

The Jewish rulers did not respond to the words of Jesus. After all, what was there for them to say?

Marjean Patterson is executive director, Mississippi WMU.

Same song, second verse; a lack of obedience is wrong

By James W. Street
Genesis 6 and 7

What was wrong then? A lack of obedience was wrong. God, in his search for good people, found that the world's population of humanity



Street

was rotten to the core. Men and women puffed themselves up to fancy that they were as gods. The subtlety of the tempter in the garden episode suggested to Eve that if she eats of the forbidden tree she and Adam "will be like God." So the two, because of their disobedience, were banished from the state of perfection — she in sorrow to bear children, and he to wrestle foodstuffs from the unwilling ground.

Generations later everything and everyone was so wrong that God was sorry (6:6-NASV) that he had created us. What was going on? I don't know, but I can guess. The powerful taking advantage of the poor, sexual perversions, love of money, careless language, disregard for

LIFE AND WORK

things and practices holy, and an utter contempt for God. So sorry was God that he decided to wipe the slate clean of every living thing. But he didn't because of our righteous family headed by a man named Noah — a man known for his unswerving obedience to God. Because of the grace of God and the righteousness of Noah, God allowed us to begin again.

What is wrong now? Same song, second verse; a lack of obedience is wrong. Recreational sex, moral relativity, political shenanigans, and an absolute breakdown in matters of personal and corporate integrity and accountability are indicators that our ethics aren't much better than the folk around Noah. That same malady was overtaken us and the symptomatology is identical: "ears that do not hear and eyes that do not see." In short — sin is wrong again, still.

A most important work for me and one

already cited in these columns before is Karl Menniger's *Whatever Became Of Sin?* Menniger wrote about sin the way I used to hear it preached in the revival meetings of yore. He drafts a verbal picture of sin as something evil, destructive, personal, and collective. He made me see that sin is much bigger, uglier, and more prevalent than ever. He writes about us like the ancient writer wrote about them.

And who is our Noah today? Who will stay the hand of judgment? Who is righteous enough? Who is obedient enough? You? Your family? Your pastor (remember I'm one, too)? Aren't we fortunate that judgements like that are left to God! Suffice it to say the quality of judgment described in Genesis 7 has been delayed for that we may be grateful because a lot of us would simply miss the boat (pun intended)!

Are we then to conclude that there is no deliverance for us today? Not at all! I don't know a better word than "covenant" (6:6 — NASV). From this very early statement of a covenant between God and his people springs all of our theology. God, as the initiator, establishes a bond, a "fettering," between

himself and his people. The forms or evidences of this covenant vary throughout salvation's history, from the rainbow to circumcision, to the decalogue, to Jeremiah's first notion that the covenant was to be an affair of the heart, to the coming of the Messiah, to the statement of Jesus that "his blood was this 'new covenant.'"

At the heart of Christianity is the strange notion that the only way to live is to die. Yes, there is a way of deliverance, but it lies in the diametric opposite of all we know as natural inclination — it is out of the ego, not into it; heads lifted up out of the trough, instead of being buried in it. It is the way of obedience. It was the distinguishing characteristic of Noah and it saved him, his family, and other elements of creation from destruction.

The bottom line is your response to the commands of God. Obedience is a life-changing, life-giving, life-saving stance. The covenant works between two parties. God initiates, but you must live up to your part. Obedience is the key.

James Street is pastor, First, Cleveland.

Baptist Record

Southeastern Seminary trustees elect chairman, dedicate center

By R.G. Puckett

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP) — Trustees of Southeastern Seminary here elected a new chairman, made changes in the process for employing new faculty members, and dedicated a new student center during their October board meeting.

Jesse P. Chapman, a deacon at First Baptist Church in Asheville, N.C., was elected chairman of the 30-member board, winning 14 to 13 over James R. DeLoach, a staff member of Second Baptist Church in Houston. One member was absent and Chapman and the current chairman of the board, O. Charles Horton of Orlando, Fla., did not vote.

DeLoach was elected vice chairman 15 to 11 over W. Jerry Holcomb of Virginia Beach, Va.

Chapman, a surgeon, said he wants to be known as a peacemaker in the present crisis in the Southern Baptist Convention. "Just describe me as an independent Baptist layman who doesn't know any theology," he told the news media. "I'm not a moderate-conservative or a fundamental-conservative. I just want to do what I can for my church and my denomination," he stressed.

DeLoach, identified with fundamental-conservatives in Southern Baptist life, described himself as not only "a representative of the 30 trustees but also of all Southern Baptists."

He expressed a displeasure at any trustees being cast as "adversarial" toward the seminary and its administration. "If someone is after a faculty member, tell us," he said to Seminary President Randall Lolley. Lolley responded that he would bring such matters to the trustees.

Several other trustees expressed their concern in the same session for the atmosphere which seemed to exist. Among them was Thomas M. Metts Jr., who "sensed politics in the board meetings. My vocational work involves politics," said the staff member of Charles Colson's ministry to prisoners.

"I sometimes vote here as a conservative, sometimes as a moderate. Sometimes I am confused."

He lamented the fact that he sensed

ed a struggle for power, "the power to control," he added.

During the two-day meeting, trustees adopted a recommendation which calls for changes in the procedure used for employing faculty members. The changes were proposed by Robert D. Crowley of Rockville, Md., and recommended by the executive committee and the instructional committee.

Currently, the trustee instructional committee comes into the selection process only when a potential candidate is selected for a vacant faculty post. Under the revision, the committee will become more fully involved much earlier in the process, receiving information on the top five or six candidates the the post.

Seminary officials say that while the instructional committee still will not vote until there is a single nominee, they will have an opportunity to comment on potential faculty members early in the process. The process will continue to start with the president, the dean and the faculty. Under it, the dean will receive recommendations, and they will be winnowed by the faculty. The instructional committee will receive the information on the top five or six candidates for a vacant teaching job.

"The change means that while they are currently involved in step five of a six-step process, they will now become involved at step three," a spokesman explained.

The seminary will have at least four faculty vacancies to fill by the beginning of the 1987 school year.

During the meeting, the new Ledford Student Center, which includes the Cannon Gymnasium, was dedicated. The new facilities are named in honor of the Hubert F. Ledfords of Raleigh, and Charles A. Cannon of Concord, N.C.

In other actions, the trustees established several trust funds for aid to students, laid plans for renovation and improvement of Binkley Chapel and the development of a Mackie Hall Faculty Center, and granted the city of Wake Forest right-of-way for some street adjustments.

The trustees applauded Southeastern's President Randall

Lolley for his "openness and willingness to implement change."

John Cosier, a first-year master of divinity student from Jackson, Miss. brought a statement, signed by 333 students which expressed confidence, love, and appreciation for the seminary, and concern for the suffering, distress and anxiety experienced by the faculty and their families in the present SBC crisis.

The statement was addressed to the trustees and all Southern Baptists.

It affirmed faith in the abiding devotion to the Bible, soul-competency, the Articles of Faith of the seminary, and called for love, oneness, and unity without uniformity. Cosier said he felt the statement reflected the prevailing spirit of the student body and many more signatures could have been obtained if there had been more time.

Before the meeting was adjourned Dade Sherman, a new member of the trustee board and pastor in Monroe, N.C., asked to address the trustees about faculty members who he said tried to block his nomination to the board by bringing up rumors about his past.

Sherman, a recent graduate of Southeastern who was elected to the Southeastern board of trustees during the 1986 annual meeting of the SBC, said his detractors made an attempt to stop his nomination by publicly disapproving of his carrying a gun to seminary classes and by questioning former employers about his work record.

"I was a police officer, and I was responsible for that weapon (a \$500 Smith and Wesson)," Sherman said, explaining he was working for the Rolesville (N.C.) Police Department while a seminary student. "When I was informed it (carrying the weapon) bothered people, I stopped."

Sherman said Thomas Graves, a seminary professor, had asked the Rolesville Police Department about his work record.

Graves, currently on sabbatical in Zimbabwe, was not available for comment.

R.G. Puckett edits the North Carolina Biblical Recorder.



Lottie Moon works in Philippines

Mississippian Doug Kellum and residents of the Philippine Refugee Processing Center greet new arrivals. Kellum first made friends among the Indochinese during military service in Vietnam. He left with a desire to share his Christian faith with them that has compelled him to serve as a Southern Baptist journeyman, volunteer and now a missionary. Mississippi Baptists support Kellum and other Southern Baptist missionaries through the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. (FMB) PHOTO By Warren Johnson

Book Reviews

The Forgotten Heritage: A lineage of Great Baptist Preaching, by Dr. Thomas R. McKibbens, Jr.; Mercer University Press.

This volume is a scholarly presentation of a great tradition of Baptist preaching that combines both intellectual strength and evangelistic warmth. It traces the lineage of a particular kind of Baptist preaching which has almost been forgotten.

The author has researched the history of Baptist preaching in England and the United States and has shown that the main stream of Baptist preaching is not to be found in the shallow, emotional rantings of frontier camp-meeting evangelists but rather in the highly intellectual, warm-hearted proclamations of Biblical scholars.

McKibbens reviews the contributions of theological giants, including Bunyan, Carey, Fuller, Clifford, and McLaren in Great Britain, and Clarke, Eaton, Hart, Manning, Furman, Wayland, and Broadus in the United States. These highly trained men and their scholarly contemporaries laid

the foundations for efforts in missions, evangelism, and theological education which have made Baptists a great people.

A serious study of this book would intensify our love for the Word of God, would increase our understanding of our denomination, and would invigorate the life of our churches.

Dr. McKibbens, son of the late Dr. T. R. McKibbens and Mrs. Bettye McKibbens of Laurel, is former professor of preaching at Southeastern Seminary. He is currently serving as pastor of Metropolitan Baptist Church, Cambridge, Mass.

To read this book is to walk proudly through a vital segment of Baptist history and receive encouragement from a noble heritage of dynamic preachers and preaching. The author inspires us to dedicate both head and heart to the awesome task of proclaiming the gospel.

I highly commend the book to Baptist people in Mississippi and throughout the Southern Baptist Convention. W. Levon Moore, Kosciusko.

Over the last three years, overseas seminary enrollment has increased more than 50 percent. Extension study, which increased almost 16 percent in 1985, has a three-year increase of approximately 40 percent. More than 18,000 students were enrolled in seminaries or Theological Education by Extension during 1985.

In 1985, 158,626 people came to know Christ as their personal Saviour and were baptized in churches related to Southern Baptist missionaries. That's 12 church members per baptism compared to the average of 41 members per baptism in the Southern Baptist Convention that year. Bold Missions Thrust calls for 807,470 baptisms per year by the turn of the century.

Christians trying to evangelize the world must look toward the cities. The world already has 3,050 cities with 100,000 or more residents, and the number may reach 5,000 by the end of the century, says Christian researcher David Barrett.

Archaeologists unearth fortifications

FORT WORTH, Texas — Ancient city fortifications and a 2,700-year-old olive oil press have been uncovered by Southwestern Seminary archaeologists working at the ancient site of Timnah, Israel.

George Kelm, professor of biblical backgrounds and archaeology at the school here led 26 students and volunteers on the seminary's ninth annual expedition to Timnah this summer.

Southwestern Seminary maintains

a permanent dig at Timnah, located in the fertile Sorek Valley and best known for the biblical exploits of Samson in the Bible's book of Judges.

Major excavation efforts this summer centered on the city's early fortifications. "We wanted to determine the nature of the fortification system established at the time the town was built," Kelm explains. Earlier excavations revealed Timnah occupied a strategic position in Hezekiah's defensive confrontations with the

Assyrians. The 1985 expedition uncovered a large gate complex used by Hezekiah in the eighth century B.C.

This year's findings support a similar view of the town's military importance during the patriarchal period. Kelm says the town's builders dug a moat around Timnah. They constructed a huge earthen rampart supported by large boulders carried from more than one-half miles away, he notes.

Baptist Record

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901 COMMERCE ST
NASHVILLE
TN 37203

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Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205